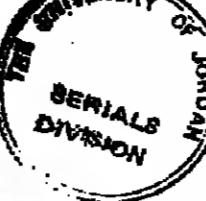


Armenian official says siege goes on

MOSCOW (R) — An Armenian official Saturday dismissed central press reports that an Azerbaijani blockade of his republic had ended, saying trade links of fuel and food were still being held back. The Communist Party daily Pravda and other newspapers reported that the blockade had been broken and normal rail traffic restored between Armenia and Azerbaijan from 6 p.m. Friday. "What Pravda says is just not true," a spokesman for the official Armenian news agency Armaspress told Reuters by telephone from the capital, Yerevan. "We have not received a drop of fuel or grain or any other food from Azerbaijan." He said some trains carrying building materials had got through since troops were dispatched to Armenia's northeastern border with Azerbaijan Oct. 3 to break the blockade. "But it is only thanks to Georgia that we are getting any food and fuel at all," he said, adding that Armenia was planning to build a second rail link with its northwestern neighbour. The official Soviet news agency TASS reported Friday that hundreds of trains were moving between Azerbaijan and Armenia, while saying that 60,000 wagons were stranded on sidings and that it would take five to six days to resume a full service.



ACC energy ministers meet

BAGHDAD (Petra) — The Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) ministers of petroleum and natural resources Saturday discussed a draft agreement prepared by ACC petroleum experts. They also reviewed a draft formula the experts had prepared on the prospects of setting a unified petroleum policy to promote the activities of petroleum companies in the ACC countries, to encourage research in the field of petroleum, and study the ACC countries' need for petroleum. The ministers' agenda includes subjects related to preservation of energy, cooperation in the field of oil exploration, developing oil fields, and finding other energy resources. Addressing the opening session, the Iraqi petroleum minister stressed the importance of such meetings and noted that the "resources the ACC countries have constitute a firm basis for further progress." He also underlined the need to look for alternative sources of energy in the years to come and to exchange expertise on preservation of energy.

Jordan Times

An independent political daily published by the Jordan Times Foundation

Volume 14 Number 4207

AMMAN SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1989, RABIA AWWAL 8, 1410

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Parliament will not be a forum for speeches but a national institution for policy-making

King: Jordan on threshold of new stage

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Jordan is on the threshold of a new stage in its history and the Kingdom's parliament which is expected to be elected on Nov. 8 will not be a forum for rhetorics but a national policy-making body on every sphere of Jordanian life, His Majesty King Hussein said.

Addressing the country in a speech broadcast on Jordan Television and radio, the King also warned against overenthusiasm over the next phase of Jordan's life without knowing the exact nature of what lies ahead.

Reviewing the roots of parliamentary life in Jordan and explaining the different phases the Kingdom has passed through, the King said: "We are on the threshold of a new start, we

should get to know the nature of the horse we are going to ride, the land we shall tread... (and) not get carried away by enthusiasm... nor avoid facing reality..."

The King also warned against mixing religion with politics and cited the Lebanese strife as an example of the results of such mixture.

"Our Arab Nation stands today new hostile attempts to dismember it along sectarian and religious lines," he said. "This is a great danger... unequalled by any other danger because it comes from within."

Referring to expected restoration of parliamentary life in Jordan with the Nov. 8 elections, the King said: "I don't believe any of you want to the experiment to fail, God forbid, through extremism, excesses or fooling around."

In an obvious reference to Iran, the King said the Lebanese

conflict had been fuelled by external non-Arab interference, and that religion had been exploited "as a way to achieve political gains and reach power, and as a tool for the execution of the plots by certain foreign countries."

"Native religious people were organised and others seeking money and influence were... trained to kill innocent people, take hostages, kill pilgrims... and plant explosives in the Grand Mosque of Mecca," he said.

The King assailed Islamic preachers who were more concerned about the way women dressed than their roles in family and society. "They have forgotten that Islam is the religion of ethics and values which curb all animal instincts in both men and women and that Islam is the religion of action and production that cannot accept the crippling

of half the society nor concede on its lofty perspectives on our mothers, sisters and daughters," he said. "Our religion is the religion of forgiveness and moderation. It is the religion of mercy..."

Joint ACC parliament

The King revealed that the four member states of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) — Jordan, Egypt, North Yemen and Iraq — were moving towards setting up a joint parliament.

The King said the four countries were now in the process of forming a joint committee, which "will serve as a constituent framework for grouping the four countries' parliaments to pave the way for sound economic integration and collective Arab action."

The King rejected what he described as attempts to portray the Lebanese conflict as a battle

between religion. "Evil forces are trying to destroy the peaceful and fruitful relationship between Christians and Muslims for hundred of years," he cautioned and called for support for the efforts of the Arab League to end the 14-year-old Lebanese civil war.

The King expressed hope that the Nov. 8 elections will herald a "new stage of serious socio-political development, and pave the way for further inter-Arab integration."

"The next parliament, will not serve as a forum for making political statements but rather as a national institute in which we will all take part in formulating the country's policies concerning industry, agriculture, trade, culture, education, public services, energy, housing and various other fields," the King said. It is the responsibilities placed on this country coming as a result of

developments at the local, regional and international levels that herald the coming days as a new stage in the life of our country.

"The elections come at a time as Jordan faces new challenges that require solidarity, cohesion and added efforts so that fruitful results can be attained."

"In the coming stage, we will not suffice ourselves with mere slogans, but we will embark on objective and responsible dialogue; and we must remember that our country is in dire need of a parliament that can help solve its numerous problems with reason, positive thinking and rationality."

"Jordan's July 1988 decision to sever ties with the occupied West Bank removed all obstacles in the path of a parliamentary election in Jordan, be said. But, to add, one should

emphasise two major factors that give the coming stage its new character.

One of these factors is the coincidence of deciding to hold elections and the decision to sever legal and administrative ties with the West Bank, the King noted. He said the past two decades were full of major events and developments and Jordan had to deal with situations resulting from continued Israeli occupation of Palestine while at the same time had to carry out four national development schemes to improve its standing at all levels.

"In the coming stage, we will not suffice ourselves with mere slogans, but we will embark on objective and responsible dialogue; and we must remember that our country is in dire need of a parliament that can help solve its numerous problems with reason, positive thinking and rationality."

"Jordan's July 1988 decision to sever ties with the occupied West Bank removed all obstacles in the path of a parliamentary election in Jordan, be said. But, to add, one should

(Continued on page 2)

King receives Iraqi, Libyan messages

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday received messages from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi, dealing with the situations in the region and scopes of collective Arab action, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said.

Delivering the Iraqi message was Iraqi Justice Minister Ali Abdal Oader, who arrived in Amman Saturday morning.

In another audience, the King received Libyan envoy Major Ali Khuweili Al Hamed, who arrived in Amman and received a civil advisor Amer Khamash.

Major Hamed, third-in-command of Libya's revolutionary leadership, left Amman later Saturday.

Jordan pledges total support for WMA efforts to end nuclear threat

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday sent a message to the World Medical Association (WMA) pledging Jordan's support for its endeavours to end all forms of nuclear tests and ensure world peace.

"In the name of the Jordanian people and government and myself I send you support and backing for your noble endeavours and to your conference designed to enable the world community to avoid total destruction," the King said in his message to the (WMA) which is opening an international conference in the Japanese city of Hiroshima to discuss measures to help the world to dispose of all nuclear arsenals.

King Hussein described the creation of WMA as a natural outcome of worldwide opposition to the destruction of mankind through nuclear conflict.

Following are major excerpts from the King's message:

"Your movement is a natural outgrowth of public opposition to

the potential devastation in mankind that lies in the nuclear threat. This opposition is representative of the great majority of public opinion which is becoming increasingly aware and weary of the issue of nuclear arms. After all, this planet belongs to all of us and, therefore, it is our duty to be concerned about it, and to collaborate in protecting it from nuclear danger. By doing so, we protect the future of mankind.

"Your congress's expert opinion, as a concerned group of physicians, must be given the highest consideration and receive the widest support from us all. Your deliberations on the effects of nuclear war should provide the most important perspective to decision-makers, political leaders and military strategists. It would also like to register our appreciation for your contribution which was instrumental in the signing of the Non-Proliferation Treaty of the Middle East to officially and openly declare that their countries will, by no means, initiate the production of nuclear weapons, nor will they allow the development or stockpiling of such weapons in their national territories. I hereby declare, through your congress, Jordan's commitment to this resolution. I urge you to continue your efforts to secure the commitment of other countries in the

region, particularly Israel.

"The nightmare of nuclear weapons is a real and haunting one that weighs heavy on the human consciousness. As a deterrent to war, it demonstrated that perfect defence is nothing more than an illusion which holds both attacker and defender captive. Any effort to free humanity from this captivity is noble and worthwhile. Nuclear disarmament is an imperative, if nuclear war is to be avoided.

"I wish your congress every success in promoting a better understanding of the nuclear paradox in which even the winners would be losers and all humanity would suffer."

Over 2,500 delegates from 70 countries, including Jordan, are attending the week-long conference in Hiroshima.

The WMA, which was founded in 1930 groups 70 countries which are dedicating their efforts towards ending all forms of nuclear weapons.

Fahd steps in to save Lebanese talks

TAIF, Saudi Arabia (R) — King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, with a letter to Lebanese Christian leader Michel Aoun, has joined other Arab mediators in trying to save troubled talks on the future of Lebanon.

Sixty-two Lebanese members of parliament, meeting in Saudi Arabia, have temporarily abandoned plans to discuss the key issue — withdrawal of Syrian troops from their country — in full session in the hope that Arab mediators will find them a way out of the impasse.

Georges Saadeh, leader of the right-wing Lebanese Front, told a news conference in Taif: "We've left this clause aside to be dealt with in behind-the-scenes contacts... so that it won't give rise to angry exchanges."

"Consultations are underway with the United States and Israel in this regard," he added without elaboration.

The situation is still under discussion," Abdul Meguid was reported.

"Consultations are underway with the United States and Israel in this regard," he added without elaboration.

The United States has dismissed the Israeli rejection as "parliamentary manoeuvring" and

not at any price."

Under the mediators' "charter for national reconciliation" Syria's 33,000 troops would redeploy in eastern Lebanon within two years of the parliament approving political reforms in favour of Muslims.

Deputies say the Christian faction wants to accelerate the programme and set its own deadline.

"I haven't said either immediate withdrawal or a permanent and eternal presence (of Syrian troops)," he said.

Muslim politicians say the Syrians are needed to keep order until Lebanese forces are strong enough to suppress scores of private armies which sprang up during 14 years of conflict.

Deputies say Saudi Foreign

"No one is prepared to abandon the principles in which he believes... in Lebanon there's disagreement on what words mean, there's disagreement on sovereignty, on what we mean by positive, on everything," he said.

"We are in favour of reaching a final and permanent settlement that lasts a long time. That's why we are working and discussing and consulting," he added.

Saadeh gave no details of King Fahd's letter but said he discussed it with Anan Saturday morning.

The Saudi monarch also wrote to Aoun's rival, acting Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss, urging him to persuade Muslim deputies to adopt a "unified position towards the charter for national reconciliation," the Kuwaiti News Agency (KUNA) reported.

Burmese hijackers surrender

UTAPHAO (Agencies) — Two Burmese students who hijacked a jetliner in a protest for democracy in their military-ruled homeland surrendered Saturday, and a Thai official indicated they would be treated leniently.

The students seized the Fokker 28 during a domestic flight in Burma Friday and ordered it flown to Bangkok. They then threatened to blow up the craft and the 83 other people on board if their demands for democratic reform in Burma were not met.

But after 10 hours of negotiations with Thai and Burmese officials, the hostages were freed unharmed and the students gave themselves up.

Early Saturday morning, the hijackers released the last group of 42 hostages and left the airplane with Thailand's Deputy Prime Minister Tienchai Sirisuphan, who had conducted most of the night's negotiations.

The 12-member inner cabinet rejected Cairo's offer on Friday.

Leased late Friday and the remaining 48 passengers and crew were allowed to leave early Saturday. Aung Gyi, a Burmese embassy official, said the passengers would be sent back to Burma.

The hijackers had demanded the release of political prisoners, an end to military rule and the restoration of democracy in Burma.

"We think they are students and not professional terrorists," he said on condition of anonymity.

Another official, also speaking on condition of anonymity, said "I think really now it is a matter of looking at the details of the negotiations and the conditions for the surrender."

The hijackers told Thai authorities after surrendering that they would be executed if sent back to Burma, state-run Radio Thailand said.

Although Thailand has nurtured friendly relations with Burma, it does not have a formal extradition treaty with that country. The first official said it was possible the students would be sent to a third country.

Thirty-five hostages were re-

U.S. sees unprecedented arms opportunity

ROME (R) — U.S. arms negotiator Richard Burt said Saturday the West had a unique chance to reach disarmament accords with Moscow but he stopped short of predicting early agreement on cutting long-range nuclear arsenals.

"We in the West should strike while the iron is hot," said Burt, head of the U.S. delegation at the strategic arms reduction (START) talks with the Soviet Union in Geneva.

He was briefing the defence and security committee of the North Atlantic Assembly, NATO's 16-nation consultative parliamentary forum, on progress in START negotiations.

Burt said changes in Soviet policy under President Mikhail Gorbachev had given the West an unprecedented opportunity to reach an accord in a range of weapons.

"Historians will judge us in a negative light if we don't seize it," he said.

U.S. President George Bush and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze have both said that a START treaty might be ready to sign at a planned superpower summit in 1990.

Their assessments followed talks in Wyoming last month between U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and Shevardnadze at which Moscow dropped a demand that a START treaty should be linked to a ban on U.S. space-based defences.

Burt said the basic framework for a treaty that would halve U.S. and Soviet nuclear warheads to 6,000 each was in place but that "four or five very important issues remain unresolved."

These included problems over air- and sea-launched cruise missiles and differences over the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) treaty.

U.N. condemns Israeli policies

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — The General Assembly, with only Israel and the United States opposed, Friday condemned Israeli policies in the occupied territories and called for measures to protect Palestinians living there.

The resolution, sponsored by 21 Arab states plus other non-aligned countries, was adopted by a vote of 140-2 with six abstentions, a sizeable increase from last year's vote which was approved by 130-2 with 16 abstentions.

The United States joined Israel again this year in opposing the resolution. Abstaining were Uruguay, El Salvador, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Antigua and Barbuda, Grenada and Zaire.

Both the United States and Israel contended the resolution was one-sided, with U.S. Representative Alexander Watson saying it distorted a difficult situation by including sweeping condemnations of Israeli policies.

Canada, Chile and Australia told the assembly they had misgivings about the resolution but decided to support it anyway.

The resolution calls for the Security Council to consider urgently measures needed to protect Palestinian civilians in the occupied territories and asks U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to examine the situation "by all means available" and submit periodic reports.

It also condemns "those policies and practices of Israel, the occupying power, which violate the human rights of the Palestinian people" and demands that Israel abide by the Fourth Geneva Convention on the treatment of civilians in time of war.

Israel responded by saying that the resolution ignored reality as well as the government's attempts to quell violence.

Israeli delegates said the latest violence "condemned" by the

PLO was against the "land itself and all that live on it, the trees, wildlife and human beings."

In a reference to an arson fire on Sept. 19 that destroyed 250,000 trees on Mount Carmel, near Haifa, he said, "these acts are all the more repulsive at a time of worldwide concern for the welfare of the environment."

Farouk Kaddoumi, the foreign affairs spokesman for the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), told the assembly that Israel claimed to have been distressed about burned trees when people, including children have been killed.

"It is surprising to see that Israel today should reject the accords and resolutions adopted by (the U.N.), the very organization that gave birth to Israel," he said.

Libyan Ambassador Ali Treki, speaking for the Arab group calling the resolution "moderate and balanced," saying it had been dictated by the tragic conditions of the Palestinian people under Israeli occupation.

"The Palestinian people have raised the olive branch to express their yearning for peace," he said.

"But this olive branch was greeted with napalm and other means of destruction, thus amputating the hand of the Palestinian child holding the olive branch," he added.

The resolution also expresses "profound shock" at the indiscriminate killing of Palestinian civilians as well as the recent random sacking of houses in the town of Beit Sahur.

Israeli tax officials last month



A Palestinian boy is seized by Israeli soldiers in Ramallah

raided the Beit Sahur six times when residents, supported by Israeli peace activists, refused to pay their taxes.

The General Assembly resolution condemns such practices as "the opening of fire by the Israeli

army and settlers that result in the killing and wounding of defenceless Palestinian civilians, the beating and breaking of bones, the deportation of Palestinian civilians," and economic crackdowns.

The General Assembly took up the Palestine resolution the same day that Israel's divided inner cabinet rejected an Egyptian plan calling for talks with a Palestinian delegation in Cairo.

Many leaders of Prime Minis-

ter Yitzhak Shamir's right-wing Likud viewed the Egyptian invitation, involving meetings with Palestinians from outside the occupied territories, as a trick to get Israel to talk indirectly to the PLO.

Red Cross pulls 4 Swiss workers from Sidon

BEIRUT (R) — The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has pulled out its remaining four Swiss workers from the southern Lebanese city of Sidon after two of its men were kidnapped there. Red Cross sources said Saturday.

Security and Red Cross sources said the four arrived in a convoy at their headquarters in west Beirut late Friday. They went into a meeting with their officials on Saturday to evaluate the latest kidnapping.

Emmanuel Christen, 32, and Elior Erriquez, 25, were seized Friday by gunmen outside a Red Cross orthopaedic centre in Sidon near the Palestinian refugee camp of Aïn Al Hilweh.

The Red Cross sources refused to say whether they intended to stop using foreign staff in Sidon, which has seen more than six kidnappings of foreign aid workers in the last year. One source said the staff's move was temporary.

The port of Sidon, 40 kilometres south of Beirut, is the largest stronghold of Palestinian

fighters in Lebanon. Friday's kidnapping brought the total number of Westerners missing and believed kidnapped in Lebanon to 19.

On Friday the Red Cross closed down the orthopaedic centre run by the two Swiss technicians, where handicapped Lebanese and Palestinians were fitted with artificial limbs.

Intensive efforts by various Palestinian factions to secure the release of the two men have so far yielded no results.

Mo'een Shohayeh, Lebanon's representative of the mainstream Palestinian Fatah group, linked their abduction to the imprisonment in Switzerland of Lebanon's hijacker Hussein Mohammad Hariri.

Hariri was sentenced by a Swiss court to life imprisonment last February for hijacking an Air Afrique plane in Geneva in 1987 and killing a French passenger.

Hariri's mother told *Vianews*, the international television film agency, strongly condemned the abduction of the two Red Cross delegates and offered to help

secure their release.

"This suspicious act is a repetition of the previous abduction of Mr. Peter Winkler whose release was subject to bargaining deals by various factions," the FRC said.

The Geneva-based ICRC helps victims of Lebanon's civil war, visits prisoners of war, arranges prisoner exchanges and aids thousands of displaced people. It operates rehabilitation centres and mobile clinics.

Last November FRC men kidnapped Swiss Red Cross delegate Peter Winkler and handed him over to Shi'ite extremists in force Geneva to change Hariri's life sentence, the sources said.

Winkler was released one month later after the intervention of Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Shohayeh said Friday that the kidnappers of the two technicians were the same as those who abducted Winkler.

But the FRC, in a statement sent to an international news agency, strongly condemned the abduction of the two Red Cross delegates and offered to help

secure their release.

"We don't support such actions. We respect the Red Cross and its Swiss workers," Hariri's mother said at her house in the southern city of Tyre.

Security sources said the kidnappers were from the extremist Palestinian Fatah Revolutionary Council (FRC), led by Abu Nidal.

It was the first time the ICRC had pulled out all its Swiss staff from a country in its 25-year history. They returned in January after receiving assurances about their safety.

The ICRC was among a handful of agencies which kept foreign staff in Lebanon after a spate of kidnappings and killings forced the bulk of the Western community to leave in 1986.

Courts-martial have dealt with three major cases since they were set up shortly after Bashir's coup, convicting on corruption charges two officials of the overthrown civilian government and acquitting one.

It was unclear whether the transfer of judicial authority will affect the application of Islamic law in Sudan, a principal cause of the continuing civil war in southern Sudan. Mainly non-Muslim southerners rebels demand that the laws be abrogated.

Bashir's decree did not mention Islamic law imposed nationwide by former President Jaafar Numeiri in 1983. Sharif remains Sudan's basic legal system although the hukum, its harsh punishments such as amputation

is still in force.

Both voters and candidates in the coming parliamentary elections in Jordan shoulder a grave responsibility and should therefore seek a true democratic rule based on the tenets of the Constitution, avoiding rashness and extremism, King Hussein cautioned.

There is no doubt that a solution will be found for the Arab

King: Jordan on threshold of new stage

(Continued from page 1)

security, youth affairs, housing and other areas.

Apart from the positive outcome, the past two decades yielded some adverse results like unemployment and the current financial and economic problem which require serious and careful handling by the royal parliament.

The second factor, the King noted, concerns the various regional and international develop-

ments and their impact on national endeavours. He referred to the Iran-Iraq war which disrupted the march of construction and development in the Gulf region, and the Arab area at large; the Arab-Israeli conflict, which remains unresolved and the ongoing uprising in the occupied Arab territories.

"Israel is still adamant and intransigent, obstructing all peace efforts and trying to strike at Arab forces everywhere," the

King said. "This situation, he warned "calls for vigilance, cooperation and joint action on the part of the Arab countries to abort the enemy's plans and contain the conflict," the King said.

He said that the superpowers had realised that confrontation can achieve nothing and opted for fruitful cooperation to resolve not only their own problems but, also regional conflicts.

"There is no doubt that a solution will be found for the Arab

problem," the King said.

Yesterdays high temperatures: Amman 34, Aqaba 31. Humidity readings: Amman 52 per cent, Aqaba 35 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:

Dr. Tawfiq Qatib 620029

Dr. Akram Samhan 894611

Dr. Jamal Abu Bakr 746426

Dr. Dr. Issam Abu Rizq 681967

Firas pharmacy 661912

Fawwaz pharmacy 768265

Al Asmaa' pharmacy 662065

Nairouna pharmacy 623672

Al Salam pharmacy 636730

Yacoub pharmacy 646945

Abdul Telephone Repairs 651101

Shmeikani pharmacy 637660

Jordan Television 773111

A slight rise in temperature is expected and some clouds will appear at

4:45 p.m. 'Asr

7:15 p.m. Magrib

10:30 p.m. Isha

12:45 a.m. Fajr

5:29 a.m. (Sunrise) Duhr

11:23 a.m. Dhuhr

4:45 p.m. Magrib

7:15 p.m. Isha

10:30 p.m. Fajr

12:45 a.m. (Sunrise) Duhr

5:29 a.m. Dhuhr

11:23 a.m. Magrib

4:45 p.m. Isha

7:15 p.m. Fajr

10:30 p.m. (Sunrise) Duhr

4:45 p.m. Magrib

7:15 p.m. Isha

10:30 p.m. Fajr

12:45 a.m. (Sunrise) Duhr

5:29 a.m. Dhuhr

11:23 a.m. Magrib

4:45 p.m. Isha

7:15 p.m. Fajr

10:30 p.m. (Sunrise) Duhr

4:45 p.m. Magrib

7:15 p.m. Isha

10:30 p.m. Fajr

12:45 a.m. (Sunrise) Duhr

5:29 a.m. Dhuhr

11:23 a.m. Magrib

4:45 p.m. Isha

7:15 p.m. Fajr

10:30 p.m. (Sunrise) Duhr

4:45 p.m. Magrib

7:15 p.m. Isha

10:30 p.m. Fajr

12:45 a.m. (Sunrise) Duhr

5:29 a.m. Dhuhr

11:23 a.m. Magrib

4:45 p.m. Isha

7:15 p.m. Fajr

10:30 p.m. (Sunrise) Duhr

4:45 p.m. Magrib

7:15 p.m. Isha

10:30 p.m. Fajr

12:45 a.m. (Sunrise) Duhr

5:29 a.m. Dhuhr

11:23 a.m. Magrib

4:45 p.m. Isha

7:15 p.m. Fajr

10:30 p.m. (Sunrise) Duhr

4:45 p.m. Magrib

7:15 p.m. Isha

10:30 p.m. Fajr

12:45 a.m. (Sunrise) Duhr

National News

The identity factor in Nov. 8 elections

By Nermene Murad

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — While no-one would like to debate it in public, the issue lurks not very far below the surface; the intricacies of the "Jordanian" identity are very much at play in the race for the Nov. 8 elections. For some candidates it is a tool to scoop up votes while for most voters it is a touchy issue, given the unique nature of what is seen as the one Jordanian family regardless of roots and origins.

As the beat of the national elections grows, batters are using different methods to discredit their rivals by casting doubts on their Jordanian nationalism citing family trees with roots elsewhere.

Others are using their roots to consolidate votes based on ethnic affiliation rather than credibility and ability. Between the two, some voters are facing a dilemma created by their own inability to draw a line, while others feel that their awareness will not allow them to be victimised by "these discriminatory ideas."

To the majority of would-be candidates, the issue of origin is something to be discussed with care, always differentiating between what "I personally think" and what "duty dictates" according to the soreness of the proposal or philosophy.

"As far as I am concerned, this jingoism between the east Jordanian and Jordanians of Palestinian origin is unacceptable," a candidate who plans to run in one of the capital's districts told the Jordan Times.

Publicly, all candidates lay claim to the Palestinian problem and envision patriotic solutions to the over 40-year-old issue. "Palestine is not for Palestinians alone. They cannot reserve the privilege of determination to themselves. Palestine belongs to all Arabs and Muslims. We want to liberate all of Palestine and will not accept any other solution," said a would-be candidate at an open debate held in Amman.

But in a private interview with the Jordan Times, the same candidate criticised candidates of Palestinian origin for their endeavours to enter into the Jordanian parliament. "We cannot have a strong Palestinian presence in our Jordanian parliament. It would validate (hawkish Israeli minister Ariel) Sharon's claim that Jordan is a substitute homeland."

The discussion now in the election circles rotates around what would "impose" the "alternate homeland" concept on Jordan, while some think that it would be "de facto situation whereby there would be a mass exodus of Palestinians into Jordan and then population ratios would dilute the Palestinian identity in the occupied territories". Others maintain that regardless of the situation "Palestinians would never accept a homeland other than Palestine."

A political analyst said the idea of an "alternate homeland" cannot crystallise "unless there were major retreats in the political ideologies of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) which are fuelled by a feeling among Palestinians that there is nothing to gain from holding on to the Palestinian identity and the right of return."

Only if the above combination materialised "would the Palestinian people be ready to dissolve within the folds of any country," he adds.

The strongest debate on this issue was triggered by the decision of some West Bank deputies in the now-dissolved Lower House of Parliament to run again as representatives of cities in the East Bank.

These candidates, when contacted by the Jordan Times on this issue, maintain that they "represented the West Bank cities when they were considered the occupied West Bank of Jordan" and since Jordan has served legal and administrative ties with the West Bank, according to the wishes of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. "We reserve our right to run in Jordan as representatives of cities in what is

"It has to be understood in all clarity, and without any ambiguity or equivocation, that our measures regarding the West Bank, concern only the occupied Palestinian land and its people. They naturally do not relate in any way to the Jordanian citizens of Palestinian origin in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. They all have the full rights of citizenship and all its obligations, the same as any other citizen irrespective of his origin. They are an integral part of the Jordanian state. They belong to it, they live on its land and they participate in its life and all its activities."

"The constructive plurality which Jordan has lived since its foundation, and through which it has witnessed progress and prosperity in all aspects of life, emanates not only from our faith in the sanctity of national unity, but also in the importance of Jordan's pan-Arab role."

His Majesty King Hussein July 31, 1988

now considered the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan."

Although many candidates and public figures are eager to stress that this jingoism is "not typical of the citizens of this country," others have used it to create more controversy, apparently thinking that they will be able to transcend the predominant awareness among the constituents on this particular issue.

"I have even heard that some are saying that Jordanians of Palestinian origin should not even vote," a candidate addressing a predominantly Palestinian constituency said.

But his attempt to "change colours according to the shades among the audience" as one described it, was met with resentment from the people attending the "informal gathering."

"I cannot believe that this man is spreading rumours of something which was probably said by a very small minority which does not affect the outcome of the votes nor reflects the tendencies among the people," a listener at the meeting said.

One candidate echoed the feeling among many Jordanians, "I carry my love, endearments and my insistence to liberate Palestine and I carry my sincerest allegiance for the dear Arab land in which I was born and where my personality was crystallised, and I do not see a contradiction between these two sentiments," he says.

Another candidate, of Palestinian origin, said that the years of his life which he spent in Amman "are an extension of the years which I spent in my village in Palestine. My allegiance to Palestine when it is being discussed and my allegiance to Jordan when it is discussed are not contradictory, and anyone who tries to highlight a contradiction is harming Jordan, Palestine and the Arab World."

To admit that this jingoism exists, according to a candidate running in the second district in the capital, "is to admit that there is a social and political sickness."

He maintained that "when we talk of highlighting the Palestinian identity, the only acceptable form is to do that in the face of the Israeli enemy, but never in the face of another Arab state."

In Jordan, as the zero hour of elections draws nearer, a formula for the participation of candidates of Palestinian origin is dissolving from mathematical equation based on percentages to a formula of nationalism and patriotism.

"The number of candidates who are originally from this place or that is now only a matter of detail. What is important is that to ensure that Jordan enjoys the support of nationalists and the allegiance of all Jordanians who live on this soil and that Palestine enjoys the support of this country with which it has unique relations which are stronger than any which connect it with any other Arab nation," a candidate summed it up.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An exhibition of watercolours on Jordan by Salam Kanaan at Al Wasiti Art Gallery.
- ★ An exhibition of Islamic scripts at Jordan National Gallery for Fine Arts.
- ★ An art exhibition entitled "Nature and Man" by Jordanian artist Mohammed Al Haddad at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ An exhibition marking the 1st centennial of the Eiffel Tower displaying photographs, drawings and pictures demonstrating the tower in all its aspects at the French Cultural Centre.

BAZAAR

- ★ A charity bazaar for Mabarrat Um Al Hussein at Al Hussein Youth City — 11:00 a.m.

Economic Council restructured

By Suhaib Obeidat
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Economic Consultative Council was revamped Saturday with the prime minister and defence minister as chairman and the deputy prime minister and interior minister, the ministers of finance, planning and agriculture and the Central Bank of Jordan governor as members of the government side.

According to a decision taken by the Council of Ministers, which held a regular session Saturday under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, the private sector will be represented in the council by Amman Chamber of Industry Chairman

Khalid Abu Hassan, Chamber of Commerce Chairman Ali Abu Ragheb, Leith Shbeilat and Zuhair Khouri.

The council can form technical committees to help it in studying the issues referred to it by the prime ministry.

"This comes as a step towards enhancing the relations between the public and private sectors to accomplish the goals of comprehensive development as well as to strengthen the new role that encourages saving and investment in moving economic facilities," said Minister of Information Nasoob Al Majali, briefing reporters after the cabinet session at the prime ministry.

The council will also function as a "forum for free dialogue between the two sectors in all economic affairs," Majali said.

Another decision taken by the cabinet Saturday reduced the permissible free local calls per telephone subscriber to 1,000 from the present 2,000. The duration per each call remained at six minutes.

The cabinet also decided to appoint Ibrahim Shehzadeh as director of Radio Jordan to succeed Rafic Shahin, who was appointed production consultant at the radio.

Saturday marked the first day of a newly-introduced government move to brief local and foreign reporters after every cabinet meeting.

Arab infant mortality rate is still high — Badran

AMMAN (Petra) — Deputising for Her Majesty Queen Noor, Education Minister Adnan Badran opened a two-day symposium entitled "the kindergarten that we want." The symposium is organised by the National Association for the Education of Children.

Fuhaid called for innovation, novelty and departure from the traditional work. He also called on the graduates to be faithful to the noble message they undertook to carry out, to ensure that Jordan will remain an oasis of security and stability, as His Majesty King Hussein wanted it.

The ceremony was attended by Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibni Zaid, assistant Public Security Director for manpower and a number of public security officers.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

KING CONGRATULATES E. GERMANY: His Majesty King Hussein Saturday sent a cable to the East German President Erich Honecker, congratulating him on his country's National Day and wishing him continued good health and happiness and the East German people further progress and prosperity. (Petra)

CHARITY BAZAAR: Under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Zein Al Sharaf, the diplomatic corps accredited to the Royal Hashemite Court holds a charity bazaar Sunday, Oct. 8 at Al Hussein Youth City. Proceeds from the bazaar will benefit Mabarrat Um Al Hussein. (J.T.)

LAWZI RECEIVES OUTGOING JAPANESE ENVOY: Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi Saturday discussed with the outgoing Japanese Ambassador to Jordan Makoto Watanabe scopes of existing cooperation in all fields, with main focus on the parliamentary affairs. Watanabe called at the House of Parliament to bid farewell to Lawzi at the end of his tour of duty in Jordan. (Petra)

EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS: Under the patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Wijdan Ali, the French Cultural Centre, in cooperation with the Royal Cultural Centre, holds an exhibition of paintings entitled "Multiples Regards" — Lithographs of the greatest artists: Picasso, Matisse, Miró, Braque, Cocteau and Le Corbusier. The exhibition will be held at the Royal Cultural Centre on Monday, Oct. 9 (J.T.).

ABU TALEB RECEIVES LIBYAN LEADER: Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Fathi Abu Taleb Saturday received the Libyan Revolutionary Command Council Member, Major-Al Khuwaildi Al Humeidi and reviewed with him the general situation in the region and issues of mutual interest. The meeting was attended by the assistant Chief of Staff for intelligence and the inspector general. (Petra)

JORDAN, JAPAN SIGN ACCORD: Jordan and Japan Saturday signed an agreement at the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) 5th conference, the Japanese government will grant the RSS Electronic Services and Training Centre additional equipment worth 50 million yen. The agreement also provides for dispatching experts and employees from the centre to Japan to undergo training. The agreement was signed by RSS President Dr. Hami Miniki and Reita Ishii from the Japanese Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications. Ishii arrived in Amman on Sept. 30 at the head of a four-member delegation to discuss scopes of cooperation. (Petra)

RSCN DIRECTOR RETURNS FROM TURKEY: Director of the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN) Ja'afar Abu Halimah returned home Saturday after a week-long visit to Turkey, during which he held talks with Turkish officials on means of cementing cooperation in wildlife protection. (Petra)

WORKSHOP ON POPULAR GAMES FOR CHILDREN: Queen Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund (QAF) Saturday held a workshop on making popular games for children at Nurzia Social Services Centre. Head of the children's programmes at the fund said that the workshop aims to encourage the production of popular educational games for children from materials readily available in the local markets. She pointed out that play is a basic element for the mental, psychological, emotional and social development of the child. Taking part in the workshop, which was organised on the eve of Jordan's celebrations of the Arab Child Day, were 50 children and 21 supervisors. (Petra)

RSS TAKES PART IN RESEARCH MEETING: The Royal Scientific Society will take part in the Scientific Research Council's 5th conference, due to be held in Baghdad from Oct. 7 to 11. Representing the RSS in this five-day event is Daoud Jabaji, the advisor to the RSS President. Jabaji will present a scientific research on building materials and construction engineering. In a statement to Petra, Jabaji said that conference aims at enhancing scientific research in the Arab World and to ensure the interaction among Arab researchers through the exchange of views and expertise in the areas of science and technology. A total of 600 scientific research pieces will be submitted to the conference. (J.T.)

NEW PRICE FOR FISH: A kilogramme of armosti fish will be sold from now on at the rate of 770 fils down from 875 fils, according to a decision by Minister of Supply Ibrahim Ayyoub. The decision takes effect as of Oct. 7. (Petra)

The 'sewage express' fat affair — the meltdown

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — One hundred and thirteen people suspected of involvement in smuggling, selling and buying unprocessed raw fat in Jordan have been sent to the military court for trial after extensive police questioning, according to an official source.

The source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said 10 other suspects were at large and "most of them are believed to be outside the country."

Details of the case of "sewage express fat," as it came to be known when it hit the headlines early last month, are expected to be fully known only after the suspects are tried. However, it has raised a public hue and cry and sparked fears that every other local product might contain unprocessed oil; adding insult to injury was the revelation that the fat was transported in sewage trucks.

For many, the thin drawing line between "unfit for human consumption but not posing hazards to human health if consumed" — the official verdict on the smuggled fat by the Ministry of Health — is not very clear. Furthermore, many are indignant over the possibility that the smuggling was going for "quite some time," exposing the public to unknown health hazards.

Investigations have thrown light into many of the shady aspects of the affair, the first of its kind to hit Jordan and publicised in recent history, but no official confirmation is available yet on many of the perceived angles.

According to the source, the trials should start very soon and the authorities are anxious "to ensure a quick process of the law." The names of all those found guilty by the military court will be published, the source added.

Other informed sources contacted by the Jordan Times said the suspects included drivers of tankers which were used to carry raw fat from Aqaba to Iraq, drivers and owners of sewage trucks which were used to transport and distribute the fat siphoned off from the Aqaba-Iraq-Aqaba tankers and owners and officials of 42 commercial establishments — food-stuff producers as well as detergent and soap manufacturers. It is also believed that municipal employees who had access to sewage trucks owned by municipalities are among those to be tried.

Though it is widely believed that some of the plants producing popular brands of potato chips, confectioneries, pastry shops, bakeries and restaurants are involved in the affair, the extent of the local use of the smuggled fat is not clear yet. The official source asserted that "there are no known cases of poisoning caused" by the smuggled substance.

He reiterated that "the future of our nation will be dependent upon our ability to ensure the mental and physical development of the children and by unleashing their potentials and capacities and inculcating the constructive values and concepts in them.

He called for developing the children's capabilities and for encouraging cooperation and positive interaction with the environment.

Badran stressed the importance of preparing good teachers at the kindergarten level, because the way they teach children or treat them determine the basic aspects of the child's personality. Therefore the teachers' personality has a great impact on the children's mental growth, Badran added.

With this in mind, the minister noted, kindergarten teachers should receive the necessary training to prepare for the teachers with the proper qualifications for kindergartens.

Badran stressed the importance of intensifying the children-oriented efforts "to ensure the healthy and comprehensive growth of our children."

He called for drawing up an educational policy that takes into consideration the characteristics of the community and the environment of the child.

Badran pointed out that only 17.5 per cent of children in the pre-school age are currently attending kindergartens and that Jordan has 550 kindergartens.

The minister said that the educational Ministry is now cooperating with the parties working with children to improve the educational process at the kindergarten level in implementation of the National Educational Development Conference (NAEC) recommendations.

The Secretary General of the Social Development Ministry, Mohammad Al Suqour, who is also chairman of the NAEC, said that the symposium, held on the eve of Jordan's celebrations of the Arab Child Week, derives its importance from the fact that it tackles one of the major issues for the children. Suqour reviewed the activities performed by the association in the various parts of Jordan.

However, he noted, the school administration "should shoulder the responsibility for creating an integrated pioneering school, that can serve as a pioneering centre for the students and the society."

Addressing headmasters of the Second Educational Zone of Greater Amman Municipality, at a meeting held in Abdous Girls Secondary School, Badran said that the success and development of any educational institution hinges on the ability of its management to run it effectively.

ihly, other containers before delivery to buyers.

'Accidents' and 'missing cargo'

In late July, one tanker carrying 45 tonnes of raw fat destined for Iraq was reportedly involved in an "accident." According to its driver, the vehicle was overturned and a good part of the fat was lost. But, inquiries failed to establish the "accident" and the driver was arrested. Again, a few days later, another tanker was reported "missing" after leaving Aqaba and was located 24 hours later in a service station in the area but without the fat. The story was again of the now familiar "accident." Some officials believe that it was the first time that a driver had sold the entire quantity right in Jordan without going through the exercise of driving to Iraq and smuggling back part of the cargo on the return leg. But some others say that some of the drivers used to sell part of their consignment before crossing the border to Iraq.

In the wake of the "loss" of the two tankers, the Jordanian transport company is believed to have paid an undisclosed sum to the Iraqis as compensation for the "missing cargo."

Extensive questioning of the two arrested drivers led to further details of the pattern of the smuggling operations and authorities kept a close vigil on movements of raw fat tankers heading for Iraq. Soon, by the second week of September, they managed to spring a net and nab over 80 suspects. There have also been suggestions that the Iraqi authorities had tipped off their Jordanian counterparts after discovering the smuggling operations from the other side of the border.

According to official statements, the total quantity of smuggled raw fat seized in Jordan is 350 tonnes. No estimate is available for the total quantity that could possibly have been involved in the entire operation, but at least 2,000 tonnes of raw fat have been listed by the Iraqis as "missing in transit" between Aqaba and Iraq in the last nine months.

The Iraqi use of Aqaba port for its imports of raw fat started in 1985. No definite figures are immediately available for the total amount of raw fat that the Iraqis imported through Aqaba since then. The average selling price of the smuggled fat was around JD 200 a tonne, while pure fat imported through proper channels was sold around JD 750 a tonne in the open market, prompting authorities to assert that it is conceivable that the buyers were unaware of the actual nature of the substance. Furthermore, a Health Ministry official said, "the very appearance of the substance is suspicious."

The argument that raw fat did not "pose any health hazards," will not work in favour of the defendants in court since regulations stipulate that anyone found selling food stuff "unfit for human consumption" is liable for prosecution for "threatening public health and safety." Furthermore, they also face charges of contravening customs regulations and evading payment of customs duties. However, the exact technical nature of the charges against them is not known, whether sellers or buyers; but, buyers of "contraband" goods are also liable for prosecution.

In the meantime, an Islamic group has sent an appeal to the prime minister demanding that those found guilty in the case be hanged for "posing a grave threat to public health." No immediate comment was available from the authorities over the issue.

An official said the authorities were withholding the names of the suspects in the case since "some of them could be guilty by association rather than participation, and some others may be proven innocent by the marital law court."

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

جورنال تايمز جريدة سياسية مستقلة تصدر باللغة العربية

Editorial Director:

RAKAN AL MAJALI

Director General:

DR. RADU AL WAQFI

Editor-in-Chief:

DR. WALEED M. SADI

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,

University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171-6, 670141-4, 684311, 684366

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Faximile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times Advertising Department.

Shamir's foot-dragging

IT MAY come to pass that Shamir's foot-dragging over Egypt's 10-point initiative will come to an end and a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue will finally begin in spite of rejection of the idea by Israel at this point in time. For all those who will rejoice once this much-talked-about dialogue gets officially launched, a grim reminder is in order: The American-Palestinian dialogue has been going on for almost a year and has yet to produce the desired breakthrough. And if this American-Palestinian dialogue has yet to produce anything tangible, how can one expect the projected Israeli-Palestinian dialogue to bear fruit? After all, in spite of the immediate rallying by Washington behind Israel's point of view, it is still not the direct party involved in the conflict. Accordingly, it would seem more probable than not that the sought-after Israeli-Palestinian dialogue will likewise be open-ended with no breakthrough in sight. Meanwhile much valuable time would go down the drain and the entire peace process will willy-nilly come to naught, so it seems.

All this gloom and doom could change once the outer parameters of the solution to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict can be agreed upon in principle before the dialogue gets started. Later on, the meetings between the two parties would develop their own momentum and create their own inertia for additional accommodations and compromises. So once the preliminary negotiations between the principal protagonists in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict get going, it will not be easy to stop them even if instant breakthrough does not loom in the horizon for fear that a deadlock would spell catastrophes for both sides. It goes without saying that failure in such talks would leave the two sides with no option except to escalate their differences to the point of no return.

Thus, all concerned parties have a vested interest in getting the Palestinian-Israeli dialogue going, but they also have a greater interest on having such dialogue come to fruition. For the Palestinian side, the intended dialogue with their Israeli counterparts is the litmus paper which will determine which way the intifada should proceed. For the Israeli side, such negotiations, albeit preliminary, would force them to negotiate in good faith under the glare of international opinion, both public and private. This could explain why Shamir's foot-dragging on President Hosni Mubarak's plan to have the Israelis and Palestinians talking to one another instead of fighting.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

THE Palestinian intifada enters its 23rd month Sunday as the Palestinians show unwavering determination to pursue the struggle for freedom, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily Saturday. The uprising which is designed to regain usurped Arab territories is being continuously confronted by Israel's intransigence and repressive measures, the paper noted. It said that the Likud bloc yesterday announced its rejection of the Egyptian-sponsored plan of holding a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue which is intended as a first step towards reviving the peace process. Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli defence minister issued new instructions to his forces to break the bones of all those who take part in any anti-Israeli riots, the paper continued. It said that the new development is bound to win Israel further condemnation from the world community, but will never put an end to the ongoing intifada. Israeli troops will no doubt continue firing indiscriminately, killing or wounding Arab people and will continue imposing heavy taxes on the local population, but they will never succeed in evicting the Palestinians from their homeland, the paper added. It is clear, said Al Ra'i, that these actions are intended to help Israel avoid peace initiatives and the idea of reaching a permanent settlement for the Arab-Israeli conflict.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily on Saturday attacks the Soviet Union for condoning a Zionist-American conspiracy of absorbing three million Soviet Jews in Israel. Fahd Al Rimawi says that while the Arabs remain impulsive about the news, the Israelis are making ready to absorb the newcomers whose settlement in the occupied Arab territories will be financed by the United States. The writer notes that the Soviet Union, which is now adopting a vague foreign policy, is not showing any objection to the move, and also not displaying any concern over Arab interests. The supply of three million Jews to Israel is a very dangerous development, since Israel has always lacked sufficient manpower to help it carry out its ambitious plans in the Arab area, the writer notes. The newcomers, the writer adds, will raise to eight million the number of Jews in Palestine, and will corroborate Israel's occupation of Arab lands. The writer blames the Arab Nation's weakness for this development and calls on Arab masses to beware of the new conspiracy.

Al Dustour daily newspaper Saturday commented on Israel's rejection of the Egyptian-sponsored peace plan, describing such position as sheer intransigence and stubbornness that impedes all peace efforts. The paper said that Israel, which refuses to recognise the rights of the Palestinian people, rejects any lasting settlement for the Arab-Israeli conflict with the hope of achieving further gains through aggression, relying on its military force. The Likud bloc which governs the Israeli society is still holding on to outdated and futile plans, and maintaining the iron-fist policy against the Palestinians and trying by all means to settle Jews on Arab land, the paper noted. It said that against Israel's intransigence and continued occupation of Arab land the international community has done nothing, but the United States has done all in its power to bolster the Israeli stand through continued military and economic assistance to the Zionist state.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

Any room for more banks?

By Dr. Fayed Fanek

DO WE have more banks than we reasonably need as some voices suggest? Did we exceed the limit in the licensing of insurance companies? Are we saturated when it comes to industrial enterprises? These are legitimate questions that can be asked, and should find convincing answers.

My own answer to the first question is: No, there is still plenty of room in the market for more commercial banks and financial companies. My answer to the second question is: Yes, because we established a huge number of insurance companies to serve a very small market. The third question, however, could not be answered, or even asked, because industry is so diverse that industrial companies, unlike banks and insurance companies, do not compete directly against each other, except in certain limited subsectors.

But first we should agree on the yardstick by which we can determine whether we have too much or too little or just the right number of any given type of enterprise. There are many methods for measurement, but the worse and least meaningful is the one that considers the volume of the business, and the number of companies or branches.

The right criteria to judge scarcity or over-saturation is profitability and the rate of return on the invested capital. If the

rate of return in a given sector is high, or higher than the average rate of return prevailing in other economic sectors, then one can safely conclude that the number of units, operating in that sector, is not excessive. Such high return suggests that there is room for expansion, until the rate of return declines to become equal to the overall average return of capital invested elsewhere in the economy, after allowing for the varied degree of risk involved.

Using this approach we find that the profitability of banks in Jordan was always higher, on average, than the country's prevailing average. This tells us that we are not in any way overbanked, and that the licensing of yet more banks maybe justified, especially if the new banking units were meant to specialise in certain activities.

By the same token we find that Jordan is over saturated with insurance companies. A fact that forced insurance companies to merge by the strength of law, as an exception to the freedom of economic and investment decision-making.

In the field of manufacturing companies, no one can pass an overall judgment. We may have excessive capacity in the production of certain commodities such as plastics or paints, but we may be lacking in the areas of clothes, foodstuffs, and shoes. Even this tentative judgment is based on the assumption that

the domestic market is the only target for all production activities. This is not true. Exporting makes any volume of production of a given service or commodity possible and feasible in the light of the competitiveness in export markets. Therefore the tens of watch factories in Switzerland may not be excessive as long as Swiss watches are produced and directed to export markets. The ideal capacity to produce watches in Switzerland can only be determined by the industry's competitiveness in comparison with the Japanese products in price and quality.

In this sense, surplus banks, insurance companies or factories are those which are not sufficiently efficient, or unable to produce the commodity or service at an economic cost.

In a market-oriented economy, we don't need to worry about too much or too less of any particular activity. Competition, profitability and feasibility will persuade or dissuade investors towards an economic activity or another. But that needs free entry to, and exit from, the market, a condition not met in our case, where the government thinks that its duty is to block the way of newcomers who may like to start new businesses such as banks, and to prevent old and weak enterprises from dying, through artificial rescue operations involving the injection of public funds or sending good money after bad.

Power battle in a sea of corruption

By Martin Walker

ALTHOUGH there was no immediate evidence of U.S. involvement in Oct. 3 military insurrection against General Noriega, the surprise was less than that the attempted coup had happened, than that Washington's wishes should have been frustrated for so long.

Panama was the third Central American country to defy the U.S., after Cuba and Nicaragua, and strategically by far the most important because of the Panama Canal. But the bizarre feature of the Panama crisis was that there was no ideological problem with Panama's military ruler, General Noriega. Indeed, the U.S. had trained and even groomed him for high office.

For former military intelligence officer who had worked closely with the U.S. General Shultz became head of the armed forces in 1983, two years after the death of the charismatic General Omar Torrijos. This position made him the effective ruler, and the opposition press and politicians quickly began to accuse him of human rights abuses, and drugs and arms trafficking.

General Noriega really became a problem for Washington when the priorities of U.S. interests in Central and southern America began to change, as the domestic U.S. drug crisis became a greater political issue than the region's geopolitics.

The financial and political impact of drugs, through the vast amounts of money they could generate, was far greater in the southern American countries than their narcotic or social impact in the U.S. Although recent attention has been focused on the power of Colombia's cocaine cartels, Panama was the first country whose government was taken over by narco-politics.

The ballot-rigging tried and failed, in part thanks to the vigilance and courage Jimmy Carter, who was able to publicise the blatant falsification of the vote. The government declared the elections void, blaming foreign interference. The widely-televisioned brutality of Noriega's supporters, publicly beating opposition leaders including presidential candidate Guillermo Ford and murdering his bodyguard, served to finally discredit his regime.

But Noriega was able to hang on, vast amounts of drug money enabling him to buy the loyalty of senior army officers. The potent tradition of Latin American distrust for the U.S. meant that even after the suppression of the elections, the Organisation of American States was not ready to condemn him out of hand. The sacred OAS principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of a member state, along with distrust of the Yanquis, infuriated U.S. diplomats.

Washington held back from direct intervention, aware that an appearance of U.S. bullying might rally nationalist support for Noriega.

There was no doubt the U.S. was trying every possible avenue to topple Noriega, and if the CIA or USA Army Special Forces did not have a hand in the attempted coup, it was almost certainly not for want of trying. It took so long in part because of the network of support Noriega built and bought over the years, and in part because drug money meant that, in the words of a State Department wit, "Panamanian majors and colonels don't come so cheap these days."

But whatever the behind-the-scenes role of the U.S., there is no doubt that there was widespread popular loathing of Noriega and his corrupt regime among the Panamanian people. And — what will be crucial for the future — there was a powerful tradition of and yearning for democracy which probably won last May's election, and which sustained October inscription — The Guardian.



The Austrian model could be a solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict

By Aryeh Green

SINCE THE INTIFADA brought the Palestinians and the Israelis out of their status quo stupor, the arguments over the Palestinian problem have reached fever pitch. Proposals have been made for all sorts of "solutions" — transfer, autonomy, federation, annexation and statehood — each one with a political movement to back it and writers from various backgrounds to promote it.

Why, then, are so many people missing the point? Palestinians (and their worldwide supporters) demand "self-determination" in the form of a state in the territories administered by Israel since 1967. Most Israelis (and their American supporters) demand that the territories be kept under Israeli control, with some measure of independence for the Palestinians living there.

Both these positions are unrealistic. Most calls for a Palestinian state are untenable in their implications for Israel's security. A Palestinian state in "all of Palestine" — as demanded by the PLO charter and the most extreme Palestinian groups even today — is unacceptable because it means the elimination of Israel as a political entity. A Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza — as proposed by Yasser Arafat and more "moderate" Arab leaders — threatens Israel as a potentially hostile neighbour.

The Palestinians, or Arabs of the Land of Israel, are here; they are a sizeable minority in the territory between the river and the sea, with distinct language, cultural, social and religious differences from the majority. If we Israelis, as "Westerners," applaud the Baltic republics' surge towards independence, if we support an independent Kurdistan, if we at all uphold the principle of man's right to define himself as he likes and his own affairs, we are obliged to recognise the Palestinians as a representation of this same phenomenon.

The historical analogy of Europe has been offered before. France and Germany, enemies for over seven centuries, capitalised on their shared cultural and political traditions to form a lasting partnership within 20 years of a cataclysmic confrontation. An even better parallel presents itself in the example of Austria, the one anomaly of a modern Europe rent by mutually exclusive treaty organisations, NATO and the Warsaw Pact.

When Europe was being "partitioned" by the victorious Allies, Austria fell between the cracks: occupied by both Soviet and American troops, considered geographically within the Soviet sphere of influence but politically and socially part of the "West."

There are many who deny the Palestinians any right to a national identity; yet they have forged one identity during the past generations. The concept of a Palestinian state, therefore, has some validity. Their right to political self-expression has been recognised even by the Israelis, if only implicitly, under the rubric of proposed "autonomy" regimes.

However, for the Palestinians to take this right and jump across decades of virulent anti-Israeli delegacy and terrorist violence to demand the immediate establishment of a sovereign state in the territories is sheer hutzpa. Hav-

ing categorically rejected the idea ever since the U.N. partition plan of 1947, the Arabs cannot expect Israel to allow such a state to be set up on its almost indefensible borders simply because they have decided it is the best they can hope for.

The Israelis need more than a simple assurance of good intentions to calm their fears of placing themselves in a vulnerable position. When Syrian, Iraqi, Libyan and Iranian intentions are taken into consideration, these fears seem more than justified. Yet courage is needed to overcome our fears in the face of what seems to be a logical and historical imperative, that of the post-World War II replacement of hegemonic power politics by national liberation movements.

The Palestinians, or Arabs of the Land of Israel, are here; they are a sizeable minority in the territory between the river and the sea, with distinct language, cultural, social and religious differences from the majority. If we Israelis, as "Westerners," applaud the Baltic republics' surge towards independence, if we support an independent Kurdistan, if we at all uphold the principle of man's right to define himself as he likes and his own affairs, we are obliged to recognise the Palestinians as a representation of this same phenomenon.

This is unfortunate and mistaken. The Austrians, like the Japanese and the Germans, accepted that the facts on the ground and the history of their conflict dictated a certain compromise in their demand for immediate independence from their occupiers. More importantly, they had no fears of never regaining their independence, nor subconscious doubts about their ability to govern themselves. Furthermore, the Austrians possessed acknowledged leaders who both handled negotiations with the Allied occupation authorities and who stood as symbols of the rebirth of their nation.

Sovereignty, with or without an army, was taken for granted by Austrians in a way not even comprehensible to today's Palestinians. The latter are suspicious of limitations on their freedom of manoeuvre. Their suspicion, like the Israeli fears mentioned above, must not be allowed to blind them to the only real chance to take a step towards their cherished goal of independence.

The theoretical concept of "limited sovereignty" is a sound one. Full domestic independence, and status as a full-fledged state in the international arena, combined with specific limitations on armed forces and alliance formation, grant the Palestinians their very legitimate right to self-expression, and grant the Israelis their equally legitimate right to real security.

First, Austria was not (and still is not) permitted to join any treaty organisation, nor to sign any pact of mutual defence or alliance. Second, she was forbidden to raise a standing army; her police and civil defence institutions were strictly defined to restrict her ability to wage war against her neighbours. Austria's own security was provided for by

Europe in 1945 was dominated by two hegemonic powers who could and did dictate policy to regional actors: the Middle East, for better or worse, is full of all-to-independent actors. And Austria's neighbours and the Allies, for all their fears of renewed aggression on her part, never feared for their own existence. Four million Israelis have reason to harbour existential fears until peace is offered them by the 20 million people surrounding them.

Knowing that a continuation of Israeli dominance is just what the Palestinians loathe about the various autonomy proposals, perhaps there is a role for a consortium of "partners" — a group of states, including Israel, to serve as guarantors of Palestinian independence and peacefulness. Who those partners or "overseers" are is not important at this juncture. The point is that such a concept can work, and has worked, and has been instrumental in preserving and promoting peace between enemies for four decades now — and is the only "solution" to our current dilemma which satisfies both parties' needs and demands. For Israel: security; for the Palestinians: sovereignty.

In the long term, there is no way of telling what would develop out of such an arrangement. Would the Palestinians turn towards the West, align themselves philosophically with Egypt, pull Jordan and Saudi Arabia towards accommodation (even, dare one suggest, cooperation) with Israel? Or would they allow another Lebanon to occur, with Ahmed Jibril, Abu Jihad, George Habash and unknown others vying with our venerable nemesis Mr. Arafat for control of the burgeoning state, turning the whole experiment on its head? And would the Palestinians (or, for that matter, the Israelis) be content?

Such a solution — creating a Palestinian state in the territories which cannot threaten Israel — does not ignore Palestinian aspirations to return to Haifa, or Jewish/Israeli religious and historical rights to Judea and Samaria. Rather, it relegates such concerns to the back burner of local politics as impractical and inappropriate given political realities.

As for the special case of Jerusalem, perhaps some arrangement of dual sovereignty will be worked out, pointing to the day when both Palestinians and Israelis will realise that the land is God's — when His sovereignty will be acknowledged, the security of all of us guaranteed, and no one will care to whom we pay our taxes or who arranges our garbage collection — The Jerusalem Post.



The youth echo the calls of the writers, vowing that Israel will "not defeat our yearning... We are a fate which cannot be escaped"

Just as Israeli attempts to suppress the Palestinian popular uprising have failed, so have attempts to suppress the wave of poetry and song that has accompanied it. Ian Black, in Jerusalem, hears a new note of hope from the West Bank and Gaza and records the uncertainty of Israel's response

This, our intifada, is a bride whose dowry is deportation and martyrs and the terrible prison and the wounds of thousands upon thousands and the demolition of homes and a river of tears or of sweat.

THIS SAD and defiant intifada wedding song is one of many written behind the barbed wire at Anbar III detention camp in the Negev desert.

The poem, by Al-Mutawakil Tah, chairman of the Palestinian Writers Association, is typical of the feverish outpouring that has accompanied the uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Not all the literature of the intifada has been written by prisoners, but most has been produced in the front lines of the struggle. Its maxim might be that if the pen is less mighty than the stone, the writer can still play a supporting role. Hundreds of poems and short stories set out to reflect a hopeful and heroic chapter in the history of a people where hope and heroism are in short supply.

It is a literature that is far too immediate to be great, too involved to do more than stir emotions and summon up the blood. "We will have time to write everything later," says Ali al-Khatib, literary editor of the Al-Fajr newspaper. "Now we must write in a very careful way. We must show the bright face of the struggle."

The new poetry and prose reflects the way that the uprising is seen as a bold and innovative phase in Palestinian history. The human price — some 650 dead (including 120 children under 16 and at least 100 victims of intercine bloodletting), thousands wounded and imprisoned, and endless days of curfew and hardship — is secondary.

In some of the better works, the florid style of much popular Arabic verse has given way to a more cautious, economical use of language. Militancy and confidence, it seems, require fewer words. Several poets have experimented by writing in colloquial Palestinian Arabic, far from the formalised structures of the classical language. The effect of the improvising tradition of the zajal — a sort of troubadour or storyteller — is often felt.

"We define our literature in terms of historical periods and political events," argues Hanan Ashrawi, who teaches at Bir Zeit university near Ramallah when it is not closed by the Israeli army. "The literature of the intifada is the voice of the intifada, but the subject matter is very didactic. There is no literature beyond politics."

For the sky is a crystal in which secrets are revealed.

Themes are repetitive. Maqali's (Slingshots), an anthology published last year by the Writers' Association, has a picture of a masked youth on its back cover. The stone is the most frequently repeated image. Martyrs (shuhada) proliferate; children and women, not fedayeen (fighters) are the heroes.

Fawzi al-Bakri's poem, Manshur (Leaflet), ends with the familiar slogan: "No voice shall rise above the voice of the intifada." Abdel Nasser Salahi's (in the Beginning was the Stone) in the beginning was the Stone (also written in Ansar III) is a song of praise to the "stone that will lead us to the nation/out of darkness into light."

Much of the literature is semi-clandestine: the heavy hand of the Israeli censor falls upon nearly every work submitted for publication: the East Jerusalem newspapers, which are under the standard set by Palestinians working abroad, or by Samih al-Qasim, the Druze poet working in the much freer atmosphere across the old "green line" border in Israel.

Al-Qasim's recent poem, Letter to the Invaders Who Do Not Read, is written in a martial style that seems inappropriate to some West Bank writers. But it breathes defiance of Israel on a higher level, too:

*We rise from the barricade to your eyes
For the sky is a crystal in which secrets are revealed.*

Themes are repetitive. Maqali's (Slingshots), an anthology published last year by the Writers' Association, has a picture of a masked youth on its back cover. The stone is the most frequently repeated image. Martyrs (shuhada) proliferate; children and women, not fedayeen (fighters) are the heroes.

Fawzi al-Bakri's poem, Manshur (Leaflet), ends with the familiar slogan: "No voice shall rise above the voice of the intifada." Abdel Nasser Salahi's (in the Beginning was the Stone) in the beginning was the Stone (also written in Ansar III) is a song of praise to the "stone that will lead us to the nation/out of darkness into light."

Much of the literature is semi-clandestine: the heavy hand of the Israeli censor falls upon nearly every work submitted for publication: the East Jerusalem newspapers, which are under the standard set by Palestinians working abroad, or by Samih al-Qasim, the Druze poet working in the much freer atmosphere across the old "green line" border in Israel.

Al-Qasim's recent poem, Letter to the Invaders Who Do Not Read, is written in a martial style that seems inappropriate to some West Bank writers. But it breathes defiance of Israel on a higher level, too:

*You will not break our
proficiency
You will not defeat our yearning
We are a fate which you cannot
escape.*

The literature of the uprising is concrete and engaged. It has not produced anything like the subtle genius of the exiled Mahmoud Darwish ("Where should we go after the last frontier? Where should the birds fly after the last sky?")

Literature, ideology, history and politics are all connected for us," Ali al-Khalili once told the Israeli novelist, Amos Oz. "One cannot separate them. That is always the case for oppressed peoples. An oppressed people will not sing like a bird in a cage; he will sing like a bird in a cage."

Khalili believes that now that the bars have been prised apart, some of the grand old stock images — knights on horseback,

laurels of victory — need to be replaced: "There are no military heroes in the intifada," he says. "Our writers outside (the country) create these kind of people. We don't have them and we don't need them. There are no generals or epaulets here."

The vision of Palestine is changing too. The concept of return in the conventional sense plays little role. Nablus and Tulkarm have replaced Haifa and Lydda. Paradise lost and regained has given way to the nuts and bolts of localised struggle, pride, and achievement.

As the Palestinian uprising approaches its second birthday, only one Hebrew novel of note has so far taken up the theme of the longest, ugliest and most desperate war in the short history of the Jewish state. This is Ta'amron (Mirage), by the Israeli novelist, Yitzhak Ben-Ner.

The book, written in 1988, consists of four monologues: one is by Holi, a 19-year-old conscript serving with the army in Nablus. When he and his unit face a crowd of masked, stone-throwing Arab youths in an alleyway in the

intifada," argues Nissim Calderon, a critic and teacher of Hebrew literature at Tel Aviv University. "The Palestinian uprising is a very difficult, very painful spiritual phenomenon for us. We are a people whose entire history is one of persecution and now it is we who are breaking bones."

The parable of Israel's literary class — dominated almost entirely by the liberal, dovish left — is a telling comment on the sheer novelty of the intifada, an ingenious weapon of the powerless that has done more for the Palestinian cause in 20 months than 20 years of armed struggle ever did. "Palestinian terrorism did not work," says Calderon,

"not just because it is not a real military threat, and not only because it is basic immorality, but because it played on our deepest fear — of physical liquidation. But the intifada is about stones and children, and children don't threaten our existence."

The writers are defensive. Amos Oz, Israel's most famous novelist, insists that the question about silence is based on false assumptions. "The media is pre-

"The youth echo the calls of the writers, vowing that Israel will "not defeat our yearning... we are a fate which cannot be escaped."

sent-minded, but literature needs greater perspective," he says. "Literature doesn't 'cover' reality, it discovers. Would you expect Graham Greene to produce a novel about Thatcher's Britain? If Herman Melville wrote Moby Dick in South Africa today, people would say it was about blacks and whites."

Israeli reportage, photography, cinema, and music have all dealt with the uprising more directly and more successfully than literature. Journalists — notably Ori Nir, the young West Bank correspondent for the Ha'aretz daily — have made tremendous efforts to convey the texture of life and literature on the other side to the Hebrew reader.

Israeli poetry has been more successful than any other literary form: Dalya Rabikovitch, the country's finest living poet, writes with a quiet fury and shame that is retained even when her spare Hebrew verse is rendered treacherously into English. "Why, on that clear Sabbath, on that happy Sabbath, comes the memory of that man they beat to death?" she asked this summer.

The basic thing is that there is no Israeli literary reaction to the

old Qasabah, and the ensuing brutality is filmed by a foreign-TV crew, but stops washing. Soon his body gives out an overwhelming stench which no soap, medicine or psychotherapy can erase.

Ben-Ner's metaphor for the ineradicable moral ruins of occupation is too crude for most of the critics. He began to write the book after his son had served for months in Gaza.

Ta'atun is far from being a great work, although its dense use of rough army slang, full of vile sexual abuse, paints a graphic and real-time picture of the war of stones through the eyes of a young soldier. But at least, one reviewer said, Ben-Ner broke the silence of art and softened the treachery of poetry. For some that silence is still deafening. The People of the Book have not yet come to terms with a struggle in which the very terms of their existence in this harsh land are being weighed in the balance and found wanting. Beyond the ephemera of politics, and diplomacy, the existential questions raised by the intifada are simply not being addressed.

"The basic thing is that there is no Israeli literary reaction to the

old Qasabah, and the ensuing brutality is filmed by a foreign-TV crew, but stops washing. Soon his body gives out an overwhelming stench which no soap, medicine or psychotherapy can erase.

Ben-Ner's metaphor for the ineradicable moral ruins of occupation is too crude for most of the critics. He began to write the book after his son had served for months in Gaza.

Ta'atun is far from being a great work, although its dense use of rough army slang, full of

vile sexual abuse, paints a graphic and real-time picture of the war of stones through the eyes of a young soldier. But at least, one reviewer said, Ben-Ner broke the silence of art and softened the treachery of poetry. For some that silence is still deafening. The People of the Book have not yet

come to terms with a struggle in which the very terms of their

existence in this harsh land are

being weighed in the balance and

found wanting. Beyond the

ephemera of politics, and di-
plomacy, the existential questions

raised by the intifada are sim-
ply not being addressed.

"The basic thing is that there is

no Israeli literary reaction to the

old Qasabah, and the ensuing

brutality is filmed by a foreign-
TV crew, but stops washing. Soon

his body gives out an over-
whelming stench which no soap,

medicine or psychotherapy can

erase.

Ben-Ner's metaphor for the ineradicable moral ruins of

occupation is too crude for most

of the critics. He began to write

the book after his son had served

for months in Gaza.

Ta'atun is far from being a

great work, although its dense

use of rough army slang, full of

vile sexual abuse, paints a graphic

and real-time picture of the war

of stones through the eyes of a

young soldier. But at least, one

reviewer said, Ben-Ner broke the

silence of art and softened the

treachery of poetry. For some

that silence is still deafening.

The People of the Book have not

come to terms with a struggle in

which the very terms of their

existence in this harsh land are

being weighed in the balance and

found wanting. Beyond the

ephemera of politics, and di-
plomacy, the existential questions

raised by the intifada are sim-
ply not being addressed.

"The basic thing is that there is

no Israeli literary reaction to the

old Qasabah, and the ensuing

brutality is filmed by a foreign-
TV crew, but stops washing. Soon

his body gives out an over-
whelming stench which no soap,

medicine or psychotherapy can

erase.

Ben-Ner's metaphor for the ineradicable moral ruins of

occupation is too crude for most

of the critics. He began to write

the book after his son had served

for months in Gaza.

Ta'atun is far from being a

great work, although its dense

use of rough army slang, full of

vile sexual abuse, paints a graphic

and real-time picture of the war

of stones through the eyes of a

young soldier. But at least, one

reviewer said, Ben-Ner broke the

silence of art and softened the

treachery of poetry. For some

that silence is still deafening.

The People of the Book have not

come to terms with a struggle in

which the very terms of their

existence in this harsh land are

being weighed in the balance and

found wanting. Beyond the

ephemera of politics, and di-
plomacy, the existential questions

raised by the intifada are sim-
ply not being addressed.

"The basic thing is that there is

no Israeli literary reaction to the

old Qasabah, and the ensuing

brutality is filmed by a foreign-
TV crew, but stops washing. Soon

his body gives out an over-
whelming stench which no soap,

medicine or psychotherapy can

erase.

Ben-Ner's metaphor for the ineradicable moral ruins of

occupation is too crude for most

of the critics. He began to write

the book after his son had served

for months in Gaza.

Ta'atun is far from being a

great work, although its dense

use of rough army slang, full of

vile sexual abuse, paints a graphic

Japan pledges to improve quality of foreign assistance

TOKYO (AP) — Responding to criticism that Japanese foreign aid is ineffective, Tokyo will improve the quality of its assistance to developing countries, a foreign ministry official said Friday.

Japan became the world's largest donor of foreign aid in 1988, surpassing the United States, with its actual disbursement reaching \$9.13 billion in that year, according to the foreign ministry.

However, critics say billions of dollars are being wasted because of a lack of coordination and expertise. Criticism also comes from groups who say Japanese Overseas Development Assistance, or ODA, has contributed to environmental destruction.

"We need to improve the efficiency of ODA," said Takanori Kitamura, director of the foreign ministry's Economic Cooperation Bureau. "We like to see we can assist more aid, but there are also three or four areas which need improvement."

The government's ODA report, released by the ministry Friday, spells out the country's foreign aid policy in coming years.

"A flexible and adaptable aid

programme must be implemented in order to meet the diverse needs of developing countries," it said.

"In order to promote a well-planned aid programme, assistance-related information should be collected and analysed, policy discussions should be held with recipient countries and a country-by-country aid policy should be set up," the paper noted.

The report also urged Japan to increase the number of development specialists it employs to coordinate its foreign aid.

Only 1,500 personnel run Japan's ODA programmes, substantially fewer than in the United States and 98.9 per cent for Britain, according to the report.

"With regard to improving the terms of assistance, Japan's grant element is the lowest among countries of the development assistance committee," a sub-organisation of the Paris-based Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development, it said.

The paper also said Tokyo's ODA programmes are not well-planned and lack analysis and information about the recipients' needs.

"A flexible and adaptable aid

programme must be implemented in order to meet the diverse needs of developing countries," it said.

"In order to promote a well-planned aid programme, assistance-related information should be collected and analysed, policy discussions should be held with recipient countries and a country-by-country aid policy should be set up," the paper noted.

The report also urged Japan to increase the number of development specialists it employs to coordinate its foreign aid.

Only 1,500 personnel run Japan's ODA programmes, substantially fewer than in the United States and 98.9 per cent for Britain, according to the report.

"With regard to improving the terms of assistance, Japan's grant element is the lowest among countries of the development assistance committee," a sub-organisation of the Paris-based Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development, it said.

The paper also said Tokyo's ODA programmes are not well-planned and lack analysis and information about the recipients' needs.

"A flexible and adaptable aid

Jordan, S. Arabia open talks today

AMMAN (Petra) — The Joint Jordanian-Saudi Economic Committee holds a three-day meeting here beginning Sunday to discuss scopes of cooperation in the commercial field, developing Arab certificates of origin, exchanging information on specifications and technology and other exchange of commodities.

The committee, which will be co-chaired by Ministry of Industry and Trade Secretary-General Mohammad Al Saqqaq and the Saudi Finance and National Economy Under Secretary Usama Ja'afar Faqih, is expected to discuss agricultural cooperation and the possibility of holding a Jordanian industrial exhibition in Riyadh and Jeddah.

Also to be discussed will be land, sea and air transport and communications, and scopes of cooperation in the scientific research field between the Royal Scientific Society and King Abdul Aziz Centre for Science and Technology.

CAEU official outlines Arab economic woes

AMMAN (Petra) — Director of the Council of Arab Economic Unity's (CEAU's) Department for Coordination and Planning, Adnan Al Sayyed, Saturday said that world economic changes and crises have left their great impact on Arab economies.

Addressing the opening session of the CEAU's economic committee, Al Sayyed stressed the need for embarking on precautionary measures to accelerate the growth rates in various economic sectors.

Such a growth, Sayyed noted, should exceed the population growth rates and should be sufficient to meet the living requirements.

He added that the economic and development problems encountered by Arab countries are caused by internal imbalances, including budget deficits, increased borrowing, fluctuation of local currency exchange rates, and the increasing inflation rates.

These imbalances have been further aggravated by the negative reflections of international crises which hit our economies because of their exposure to external factors and their increased involvement in international markets.

The situation has further deteriorated by the limited flow of external resources and the increasing counter flow of currency, including the capital flight which was estimated at \$40 billion during the last ten years.

The foreign debt constituted a big burden on Arab economies, which have suffered a lot as a result of the increasing debt.

GCC sees EC merger boosting oil demand

LONDON (R) — A Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) official was quoted Saturday as saying a single European Community (EC) market in 1992 should increase demand for Gulf Arab oil and petrochemicals.

GCC Assistant Secretary-General Abdullah Quweir told the Sandi-owned newspaper Ashraq Al Awasat that officials from both sides would meet in Spain in February to discuss the impact of the merger on future relations.

"The European market merger in 1992 will... increase economic growth rates, which will in turn boost its demand for oil and petroleum products, including GCC exports," the paper quoted Quweir as saying.

The official warned that limiting access to GCC exports might make of the market an "impregnable fortress against others."

The GCC, a political and economic alliance comprising Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, wants to narrow a trade deficit that last year reached \$4.4 billion in favour of the EC.

Weekly Amman Financial Market trading

AMMAN (I.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market starting Saturday Sept. 30, '89 and ending Wednesday Oct. 4, '89. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Per value
Banking and financial institutions					
Industrial Development Bank	400	656	1,600	1,640	1.00
Jordan Islamic Bank	1849	4340	2,350	2,340	1.00
Jordan Kuwait Bank	17000	23800	1,420	1,400	1.00
Housing Bank	11114	20672	1,860	1,860	1.00
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	51527	1391229	27,550	27,000	5.00
Cairo Amman Bank	748	10472	14,100	14,000	5.00
Bank of Jordan	4800	950838	190,000	194,000	10.00
Arab Bank	21065	52464	2,500	2,500	1.00
Jordan National Bank	—	—	—	—	—
Jordan Finance House for Development	13326	43863	3,170	3,270	1.00
Jordan Investment and Finance Bank	—	—	—	—	—
National Financial Investments	197676	336754	1,570	1,650	1.00
National Portfolio Securities	21783	58314	2,830	2,630	1.00
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	—	—	—	—	—
Jordan Securities Corporation	—	—	—	—	2.00
Real Estate Financing Corporation	—	—	—	—	1.00
Bet Al Mal Saving & Investment for Housing	—	—	—	—	1.00

Insurance and reinsurance

Middle East Insurance	21386	38134	1,850	1,800	1.00
Jordan French Insurance	5187	14381	2,750	2,750	1.00
Jordan Insurance	9250	11310	1,190	1,240	1.00
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	100	151	1,540	1,540	1.00
Yarmouk Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	—
Holy Land Insurance	1400	1992	1,370	1,440	1.00
Philadelphia Insurance	—	—	—	—	—
Arab Union International Insurance	250	413	1,600	1,650	1.00
Jordanian Insurance	4691	7599	1,620	1,620	1.00
Jordan-Gulf Insurance	—	—	—	—	—
General Arabia Insurance	—	—	—	—	—
National Ahliya Insurance	—	—	—	—	—
Arab Belgian Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	—
United Insurance	—	—	—	—	—

Services and industries

General Investments	—	—	—	—	1.00
Imma for Investment and Financial Facilities	—	—	—	—	1.00
Darco for Housing and Investment	17000	17273	1,020	1,000	1.00
Saudi Real Estate Investment (Agarco)	363600	228085	0,630	0,640	1.00
Jordan Gulf Real Estate Investment	72360	27158	0,360	0,380	1.00
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equities	10760	1829	0,670	0,670	1.00
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Tajeroo	15550	5278	0,840	0,850	1.00
International Contracting & Investment	—	—	—	—	—
Jordanian Electric Power	5679	8126	1,440	1,430	1.00
Irbid District Electricity	405	302	0,720	0,720	1.00
Arab International Hotels	249129	418530	1,660	1,670	1.00
Hotels and Tourism	250	115	0,480	0,460	1.00
United Middle East and Commodore Hotels	—	—	—	—	—
Garage Owners Federation Office	288800	561385	1,840	2,030	1.00
Jordan National Shipping Line	—	—	—	—	—
Jordan Press Foundation	—	—	—	—	—
Jordan Press and Publishing	—	—	—	—	—
Dar Al Shabab Press, Printing and Publishing	—	—	—	—	—
Jordan Dairy	22134	24850	1,100	1,120	1.00
Jordan Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	50411	233480	4,450	4,660	1.00
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	326145	858295	2,610	2,570	1.00
Jordan Phosphate Mines	5807	24634	4,210	4,250	1.00
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Intaj)	28262	50015	1,740	1,770	1.00
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	15050	80008	5,150	5,420	1.00
Jordan Kufait for Agricultural Products	—	—	—	—	—
Jordan Sweets and Chocolate Manufacturing	—	—	—	—	—
Aladdin Industries	230283	698568	2,760	3,070	1.00
Arab Aluminum Manufacturing	118100	259710	2,080	2,170	1.00
Jordan Woostex Mills	32605	83196	2,500	2,600	1.00
Jordan Ceramics	405	919	2,390	2,270	1.00
Chemical Industries	686500	1081551	1,480	1,530	1.00
Jordan Industries and Match (JIMCO)	11360	41005	3,420	3,600	1.00
National Steel Industries	33051	78861	2,280	2,350	1.00
Universal Chemical Industries	63650	242913	3,680	3,800	1.00
General Mining	2507	19876	7,930	7,890	1.00
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	24750	2840	0,120	0,120	1.00
National Industries	—	—	—	—	—
Arab Paper Converting and Trading	147073	78530	0,480	0,560	1.00
Arab Investment and International Trade	17650	51601	2,900	2,910	1.00
Jordan Wood Industries (JWICO)	420	302	0,720	0,720	1.00
Livestock and Poultry	39620	102602	2,550	2,600	

Sports

JORDAN TIMES, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1989 7

Lendl beats Mancini, reaches Stuttgart final

STUTTGART, West Germany (R) — World number one Ivan Lendl overcame early service breaks in each set to beat Argentine Alberto Mancini 6-2, 6-3 and reach the final of the \$350,000 Stuttgart Classic men's tennis tournament Friday.

Mancini looked Lendl's equal early in the first set of the mainly baseline duel and broke the Czechoslovak for a 2-1 lead.

Lendl's answer was to reel off the next five games, taking the first set after 28 minutes nn a Mancini double fault.

Mancini, ranked 10 in the world, broke Lendl in the first game of the second set but the 29-year-old Czechoslovak broke back at once and then again in the sixth game for a 4-2 lead.

Mancini, who had won only one of his group matches in the

Round Robin tournament, found himself in the last four when West German Boris Becker withdrew with a knee injury.

Lendl's opponent in Saturday's final will be fellow-Czechoslovak Miloslav Mečíř, who beat West German Carl-Uwe Steeb 6-3, 6-4 in 69 minutes.

Mečíř looked at his most relaxed, sometimes too relaxed, in the first set, which featured five service breaks. He romped to a 5-1 lead before Steeb managed to gain a foothold.

Mečíř continued to toy with local hero Steeb in the second set, driving the left-hander out of court with sharply angled strokes to the German's backhand side and then loping to the net to volley winners into the opposite corner.

Maradona denies transfer

NAPLES, Italy (R) — Diego Maradona has denied he is considering leaving Napoli despite suggesting in midweek the possibility of a future transfer to Marseille of France.

"I don't think I'll be leaving Napoli at the end of this season," Maradona told the Italian sports daily Corriere Dello Sport in an interview published Saturday.

"I want to stay until this whole matter is cleared up. Then I'll talk to the Napoli president (Corrado Ferlaino)," he added.

The Argentine World Cup star told the French weekly magazine France Football earlier this week that he was still attracted by the offer of a move to Marseille.

Maradona incurred the wrath of Napoli and is facing disciplinary action from the club after extending his summer holiday two weeks beyond an agreed August deadline and arriving back



Anatoly Karpov

Karpov leads

LONDON (AP) — Anatoly Karpov moved into a 2-1 lead in the world chess championship candidate's semifinal Friday after his fellow Soviet Artur Yusupov resigned their adjourned third round game without resuming play.

Play had been adjourned after six hours of battle Thursday with Karpov holding an overwhelming advantage in an endgame.

Vyacheslav Nagel, a match official, said Yusupov gave up Friday morning.

The winner of the candidates' cycle will challenge world champion Garry Kasparov for his title in a 24-game match in October 1990. The winners of the eight-game semifinal contests will face off in the candidates' final next March.

In the second semifinal, Jan Timman of the Netherlands was leading British grandmaster Jon Speelman 2-1 after winning their second round Tuesday. They did not play Friday, but resume Saturday.

A win scores one point and a draw a half.

Karpov's victory follows an exciting zig-zag struggle where Yusupov appeared on the verge of a dramatic triumph over Karpov, who held the world title for 10 years until losing to Kasparov in 1985.

But in the final minutes of play on Thursday, Yusupov's nerve snapped. He made a grave mistake in the 59th move and lost a bishop.

Last Monday, Kasparov won a top-notch tournament in the Dutch port city with a crushing score of 12 points out of 14.

The result is likely to catapult the 26-year-old titleholder past America's Bobby Fischer as the highest ranked player of all time, when the bi-annual international ranking list is published on January 1.

For the past five years, Karpov, 38, and Kasparov have been locked in a bitter personal and professional battle stretching over a record-shattering four world title bouts.

Karpov is favourite to win the candidates' cycle and faceoff against Kasparov for a fifth time.

"Karpov has been badly off form in this match. He was in trouble in the second game as well," Garcia said. "But now he's won a game he will be able to pull himself up. He's very likely to win the match now."

If either contest ends in a 4-4 tie, two further games will be played, followed, if necessary, by sudden death tiebreakers at increasingly high speeds.

In the fourth round Saturday, Karpov will play with the advantage of the white pieces against Yusupov, while Speelman will faceoff with white against Timman.

DUTY UNPAID CAR FOR SALE

Toyota Crescida, model 1985, mileage: 106,000 km, new engine, air conditioned, dark grey metallic, excellent condition. Payment in U.S. dollars only.

Please call Tel. 644154 from 9 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

SECRETARY WANTED

A Jordanian trading and agencies company is seeking a competent and experienced secretary fully conversant with secretarial duties. Good command of the English language is a must.

Applicants please call on suite No. 3 - 4th floor — Jordan Insurance Company Building (opposite Abou Ahmad Restaurant) — 3rd Circle — Jabal Amman — from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. — Tel. 653398.

HOROSCOPE NOT RECEIVED

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
© 1989 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

MAKE THE MOST OF IT

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
* K 7 5
* Q 3 2
* Q 10
* Q J 10 5
* A O J 10 4 3 * 9 E 6 2
* J 10 8 6 5
* 8 2
* Void

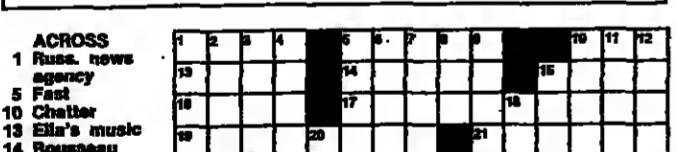
EAST
* A 9 7 6 5
* K 9
* J 5
* 9 8 7 4 3
* A K 6 2

The bidding: South: West: North: East: 1 0 2 0 3 NT Pass
4 4: Pass 5 0: Pass
6 0: Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Jack of . It is not too difficult to spot the extra chance available on this hand. Yet an experienced player went wrong.

North had a problem over West's Michaels cue-bid of two diamonds, which showed a major two-suiter. We can't quarrel with three no trump. He had an equally hard decision over four clubs. Since it was unlikely that South was going to need discards in the North hand, North chose to play in South's first trick.

THE Daily Crossword



All Rights Reserved

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:



CROSSWORD
1 Russ. news agency
5 Fast
13 Chester
15 Elmer's music
16 My for Ut?
17 City or bridge players
21 Quinine water etc.
22 Concise
23 Concord
24 River deposits
25 Lager beer
30 Wedding vow
31 Broom
33 Roman fountain
34 Material
35 Stomach
36 Pneumonia
38 Actress
39 Diamond and
Sakata
41 Happily
43 Sound from
the core
44 Partners
45 Mocking birds
46 Robin
William's role
49 Took a
chance
50 Clover type
53 Cumulus
55 Ollman's
hometown?
58 Pomette or
Bonheur
59 Ad.
60 Synagogue
61 Clapton
62 Tater
63 Sta. Marie
64 ABH44
DOWN
1 Autocrat
2 Highest point
3 Boxer Joe's
headgear
4 Middle Eng.
5 Coffee break
6 Con —
7 Lotus
8 du Diabol
9 Ross
10 Mystical man
11 Sir Guinness
12 Rosita
15 Colmocan Ann
16 Lift
20 Sandwich
21 Ion
24 A Keaton
25 Advantages
26 Swimming
places?
27 Actor Brian's
place?
28 Resort on
Lake Geneva
29 Gam and
Tinsingham
30 Night action

3 Judicial write
37 On the level
40 Serpentine
42 Coat of arms
47 Seaweed
48 Of a brain
part

50 Culture gal
51 Dolly's
name
52 Name
53 Teacher
54 Govt. org.
55 Having trials
57 Feather scarf

English soccer:

Sheffield increases lead

LONDON (AP) — Follback Wilf Rostron and midfielder John Gammon scored on either side of halftime Saturday to rally Sheffield United to a 2-1 victory at Wolverhampton and strengthen its position atop the second division of the English Soccer League.

Sheffield United and Blackburn remained the only undefeated teams in the second division, but Blackburn slipped two notches to fourth place because its game against Middlesbrough was postponed.

The second division was in the spotlight Saturday since the first division in England and the Scottish premier division has the afternoon off as the English and Scottish teams prepared for World Cup qualifying matches.

England plays its final group 2 qualifier Wednesday at Poland, needing just a point to clinch a spot in the 1990 World Cup finals.

Scotland also can secure a place in the finals when it plays Wednesday at France in a group 5 contest.

Sheffield United fell behind at Wolverhampton on a 16th-minute goal by English international striker Steve Bull, his eighth of the season, but the Blades rallied with a pair of goals helped by Wolverhampton mistakes.

United tied the score in the 39th minute when Rostron, on loan from Sheffield Wednesday, seemed to surprise goal Mark Kendall with a 20-metre shot.

The blades took the lead five

minutes into the second half on a cold, wet, windy day when Wolverhampton failed to clear the ball and Gammon drilled in a low shot from 18 metres.

The victory moved Sheffield United up to 22 points from 10 matches, giving it a lead of three points over Sunderland — which got a pair of Eric Gates goals and it was Bradford defeating Brighton 2-0, Swindon winning 3-2 at Hull, Oldham moving into sixth place with a 2-0 home triumph over Barnsley and Oxford winning 2-1 over Port-smeath.

Also, Plymouth defeated Stoke 3-0 and Port Vale edged Leicester 2-1.

Newcastle slipped two spots to fifth place by losing 2-1 at Ipswich, which had not won in its seven previous contests. David Lowe and veteran John Wark provided the Ipswich Goals.

In other second-division games

it was Bradford defeating

Brighton 2-0, Swindon winning

3-2 at Hull, Oldham moving into

sixth place with a 2-0 home

triumph over Barnsley and Oxford

winning 2-1 over Port-smeath.

Also, Plymouth defeated Stoke

3-0 and Port Vale edged Leicester

2-1.

Sheffield United fell behind at

Wolverhampton on a 16th-

minute goal by English interna-

tional striker Steve Bull, his

eighth of the season, but the

Blades rallied with a pair of goals

helped by Wolverhampton mis-

takes.

The committee is chaired by

the minister of social affairs and

labour, Sheikh Nasser Muhammad Al Sabah, with the president

of the Asian Olympic Council,

Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmad Al

Sabah, as deputy.

"God willing, the cham-

pionship will be a success despite

remarks by those who tried to

cast doubt on Kuwait's ability to

organise the tournament,"

Sheikh Fahd told a sports

meeting.

He said that Kuwait decided to

organise the tournament at the

instructions of the emir, Sheikh

Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, in his

capacity as chairman of the 46-

member Organisation of the Isla-

mic Conference.

The announcement said that 44

countries had been invited to

participate in the games, which

will include football, basketball,

volleyball, handball and athletics.

is wrong to cheat," he said at a

news conference called by spon-

sors of the new legislation. But he

confessed that the threat of stiffer

penalties would have had little

effect on him personally. "No it

would not," (have made any dif-

ference)," he said.

In some of the most dramatic

testimony of the inquiry, John-

son's longtime coach, Charlie

Francis, detailed the disgrac-

ed sprinter's years of steroid use

and the use of banned perfor-

mance-enhancing drugs by other top

Canadian athletes under his gu-

ardine.

Francis stated bluntly that the

drugs were essential for success at

the top levels of international

competition.

"There are people who stand

up there and claim 'I did it clean.'

If just isn't true," Francis testified

in March.

E. Germany puts up scaled-down military show on anniversary

EAST BERLIN (R) — East Germans celebrated its 40th anniversary with a scaled-down military display Saturday in apparent deference to Soviet disarray and with tight security against any possible show of political dissent.

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev was guest of honour at festivities undermined over the past month by an exodus of at least 45,000 people from hardline East Germany to the West.

In an apparent gesture towards Gorbachev's Warsaw Pact disarray offensive, the number of tanks in the parade was slashed to reflect planned cuts in East German armed forces.

Nor did East Berlin bring in the M1-24 assault helicopters that swept down the Karl Marx Allee in previous years. "They apparently decided to

do this with Gorbachev and the sensitivities around him in mind," one Western diplomat said.

But the night before the parade new concrete-and-metal barriers went up at the Checkpoint Charlie border crossing through the Berlin Wall — built in 1961 to dam the last major flow of East Germans to the West.

The official media here have charged that anti-Communists might stage protests to disrupt the anniversary celebrations.

East Germany has turned away 820 West German tourists trying to enter the city since the tightly-controlled festivities started Friday, West Berlin officials said.

But the anniversary parade proceeded without incident under grey skies despite the government's fears that there would be protests from dissident groups and would-be emigrants.

Rows of East German troops in olive uniforms, steel helmets and white gloves led the parade, goose-stepping past Gorbachev, East German leader Erich Honecker and other visiting Warsaw Pact leaders who reviewed the proceedings from a flag-draped stand.

Several thousand people lined the streets to watch, with security forces keeping a tight rein on access.

Soviet-built T-72 tanks, armoured cars, multiple rocket launchers and field artillery — all previously seen here — rumbled down the wide boulevard past rows of box-like apartment blocks decked out with flags and 40th birthday banners.

The only nuclear-capable weaponry on show were Frog tactical surface-to-surface missiles, which have a range of 30 to 65 kilometres.

The three Western allies — Britain, France and the United States — say such parades are a violation of the four-power ban on any German military presence in the divided city.

"It was clear to everyone that the number of armoured vehicles in this parade was well below that of past years," the official ADN news agency said.

It said the military show had been cut by 600 tanks, 50 fighter planes and 10,000 men.



Erich Honecker

Bush maintains he did not mishandle Panama coup bid

WASHINGTON (R) — President George Bush Friday rejected charges that he wasted an excellent chance to capture Panama's General Manuel Antonio Noriega although senior U.S. officials conceded shortcomings in the White House handling of a coup attempt.

"I don't see anything now that would have made me make a different decision," Bush told reporters after emerging from successful surgery to remove a cyst from his right middle finger. "Look, I want to see Noriega out of there."

Bush was responding to criticism from congressmen and others who contended White House failure to use the military Tuesday in support of coup leaders wrecked its best chance in two years of apprehending Noriega and bringing him to the United States for trial on drug trafficking charges.

"I didn't use military force because it wasn't warranted under the existing circumstances. What some people seem to have wanted me to do is to unleash the full military to go in and get Noriega — I think that's the charges by those who feel as frustrated as I do about the results," he said.

Bush said he would not rule using the military in Panama in the future but that he would not recklessly endanger American lives.

He repeated a denunciation of the Panamanian leader, saying: "The day he goes out, there will be dancing in the streets."

Officials attributed White House shortcomings to their first test under fire since Bush took power in January and said White House Chief of Staff John Sununu had ordered a review of crisis management procedures.

"This is our first bloodletting, if you will, our first real-time crisis operation. We've learned some things about our operation that we need to improve (and) we'll improve them," one said.

Deputy Secretary Dick Cheney said the United States did the best it could with the intelligence information at hand, saying officials never had a "neat, clean picture" of the situation in Panama.

"There is no question (that) if we wanted, we could go in and wipe out the PDF (Panamanian Defence Forces) today. We could do it by sundown. There's no question but that we've got the military force to go take Mr. Noriega. But you'd probably take a fair number of casualties if you did it. You don't embark upon that course of action lightly," he told a news conference.

He said U.S. policy towards said,



George Bush

Panama remained constant — that it was ultimately up to the Panamanian people to bring back democracy.

"We are not in the business of willy-nilly running around the hemisphere toppling governments that we don't like," he said.

Bette Davis — tough queen of Hollywood — dies in Paris

NEW YORK (AP) — Bette Davis, the two-time Oscar winner whose toughness, huge eyes and haughty, cigarette-smoking style made her a movie industry legend, has died of cancer at age 81, her long-time lawyer said Saturday.

Davis died Friday night in a Paris hospital after returning there from the San Sebastian Film Festival in Spain, said her lawyer Harold Schiff.

Davis — who appeared in more than 80 films, including "Jezebel," "All About Eve," and "How to Marry a Millionaire" — underwent a mastectomy five years ago. But the cancer recurred, Schiff said.

"The doctors had told us the cancer had spread, that it was terminal," he said. "The doctors had said let her go, go, go, going about her business."

In Paris, France Info Radio reported that Davis died in the American hospital in Paris. A spokesman at the hospital declined to confirm the report but said a statement would be issued later.

"What a loss," said actress Olivia de Havilland, a Paris resident, who worked with Davis in four films including the 1964 "Hush, Hush Sweet

Charlotte."

"She was a remarkable person to work with, highly professional, innovative, brilliant and quick," said de Havilland, 73. "I thought she had some marvelous personal qualities and I was very fond of her."

Vivien Price, who Vincent Davis with "The Private Lives of Elizabeth and Essex" in 1939 and "Whales of August" in 1987, mourned her as a film genius.

"There are very few people left who really sum up the motion picture industry, who had that star quality. It was really rare," Price said to Los Angeles. "She had an extraordinary energy; she was a genius."

Davis was nominated for Academy Awards 10 times and won two best actress Oscars, for "Dangerous" in 1935 and "Jezebel" in 1938. She won an Emmy in 1979 for the television production "Strangers: The Story of a Mother and Daughter."

Her screen heroines were often as uncompromising as the actress was off-screen and on the set.

"The person who wants to make it has sweat," she said once. "There are no short cuts.

And you've got to have the guts to be hated. That's the hardest part."

She gave no one credit for her success except Bette Davis.

"The most rewarding thing in the world who you've made it," she said, "is that you don't owe nobody nothing... the reward is an honest day's work."

She once suggested the lines for her own epitaph: "Bette Davis — She did it the hard way." That included her 1985 comeback from the mastectomy, a stroke and a broken hip in quick succession.

At the San Sebastian Film Festival last month, reporters asked her whether she was more of a wicked woman or film or in real life.

"Half and half," she said, drawing a laugh.

She was frail enough by then that she had to spend most her time resting in her hotel room. But she put a brave face on it, telling reporters she stayed hidden away to "take care of all the details, including makeup, to appear beautiful before you all."

She was born Ruth Elizabeth Davis April 5, 1908 in Lowell, Massachusetts, the elder of two daughters of Harlow and Ruth Favor Davis.

traditional Hollywood glamour girl, the skinny youngster with the huge eyes relied on her acting skill and took roles nobody else wanted, playing nasty women more often than nice ones.

"My entire career was never based on looks or glamour or sex," she once said. "It was an absolute miracle that people came to watch me act."

Impressionists copied her mannerisms, and a song, "Bette Davis Eyes," was a rock hit in 1982. The line most identified with her was "what a dump" from "Beyond the Forest."

She sought happiness in marriage, but after four husbands declared that she had failed and would never marry again. When she wrote her autobiography, she titled it "The Lonely Life."

"Do you know what my highest regret is?" she said in March 1983. "I never found the right man to live my life with."

She was born Ruth Elizabeth Davis April 5, 1908 in Lowell, Massachusetts, the elder of two daughters of Harlow and Ruth Favor Davis.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Deng willing to normalise Hanoi ties

PEKING (AP) — Senior leader Deng Xiaoping said Saturday that China is willing to normalize relations with Vietnam once it ends its occupation of Cambodia and stops its "little tricks." Deng's statements, carried by the official Xinhua News Agency, came in a 75-minute meeting with government and party leader Kaysone Phomvihane of Laos, a staunch ally of the Hanoi government. Deng said that China has recently normalized its relations with Laos and the Soviet Union, so "only Vietnam is left." He added: "I don't understand why Vietnam is against China. We are willing to improve our relations with Vietnam, but only when it completely withdraws its troops from Kampuchea (Cambodia) can we say that the past is ended." This is a rudimentary thing a socialist country should do."

Muscovites rally against Ligachev

MOSCOW (R) — Thousands of people linked hands in the centre of Moscow Saturday to protest about what they said was the harassment of two special prosecutors who had been investigating Kremlin hardliner Yegor Ligachev. The crowds stretched all the way down Gorky street, then marched into a square just behind the Kremlin and held a mass meeting in pouring rain to demand his treatment for the two men, Telman Gulyam and Nikolai Ivanov. Gulyam and Ivanov were removed from an investigation into corruption in Soviet Uzbekistan earlier this year when they said Ligachev had been under investigation. An official inquiry was ordered into the activities of the two men, who were elected to the new Soviet parliament in the spring.

Author found innocent in Desai case

CHICAGO (R) — A federal court jury ruled Friday that Pulitzer prizewinning Author Seymour Hersh did not libel former Indian Prime Minister Morarji Desai when he called him a U.S. spy. The six-member jury, which deliberated for just over one day at the end of three-week hearing, found there was no "clear and convincing evidence" that Hersh knowingly made false statements. It also found that Desai, now 94 and in poor health, did not prove that Hersh's allegations defamed him. Desai had sought \$100 million in damages from Hersh over the allegations which appeared in Hersh's 1983 book "The Price of Power."

Pretoria to free activist

PRETORIA (R) — South Africa plans to free Walter Sisulu, the country's most prominent political prisoner after Nelson Mandela, ahead of a Commonwealth summit later this month, government sources said Saturday. The sources, who declined to be named, said the government had approved the release of Sisulu, 77, and Oscar Mpetha, 80, and the two would probably be freed a few days before the summit opens in Kuala Lumpur Oct. 18. A decision had been made to free Sisulu and Mpetha before the summit in order to exert pressure on British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, who opposes efforts by her Commonwealth colleagues to impose further sanctions on South Africa. "We owe Mrs. Thatcher a favour," one source told Reuters. Sisulu, a former secretary-general of the African National Congress (ANC) guerrilla group, was sentenced along with Mandela to life imprisonment for plotting sabotage and revolution, at the Rivonia treason trial in June 1964.

Greek coalition quits after sending Socialists to trial

ATHENS (R) — Greece's Conservative-Communist coalition government resigned Saturday, after ordering ex-Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou and five other former Socialist ministers to stand trial on corruption charges.

"I have submitted the resignation of my government," Prime Minister Tsanassis Tsantekakis said. "We have fulfilled the tasks which we pledged ourselves to accomplish."

The unprecedented right-left coalition joined forces in July with the sole aim of lifting immunity from prosecution for former Socialist ministers suspected of wrongdoing in a series of scandals and sending them for trial on corruption charges.

Tsanakis, who will act as caretaker prime minister until a new government is sworn in, said he expected elections Nov. 5. He spoke to reporters after handing his formal resignation to President Christos Sartzetakis.

Papandreou, 70, in power from 1981 until a crushing June election defeat, was among those ordered to stand trial by the coalition.

controlled parliament.

Papandreou is accused in a \$200-million bank embezzlement scandal and of illegally ordering wire-taps on the telephones of political foes, reporters and even his own friends, but he will still lead the Socialists in the next election.

Under the constitution Sartzetakis must offer each leader of the three main parties a chance to form a government before calling the second national election this year.

The conservative New Democracy Party, with 145 seats in the 300-seat parliament, and its coalition partner, a communist-led alliance with 28 seats, said they would reject any request to try to form a government and would insist on elections.

Papandreou has indicated he will use his three-day period, expected to start Saturday evening, to try to woo the Communists into a left-wing coalition government.

But Communist Party leader Harilaos Florakis, in a Saturday radio interview, again rejected doing a deal with Papandreou's

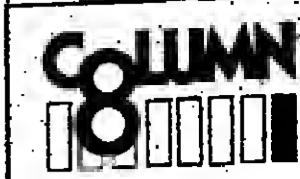
Panhellenic Socialist Movement (PASOK) and said elections must be held in November.

The resignation of the right-left coalition brings to an end one of the most turbulent periods in post-war Greek politics but the outcome of the election is uncertain.

New Democracy took 44 per cent of the vote in the June vote but recent opinion polls indicate the conservatives will have a tough fight to win the extra two or three per cent needed to regain the absolute majority in parliament that they lost in 1981.

Papandreou, a charismatic populist leader who won landslide victories in 1981 and 1985, went into the June election battered by personal, political and financial scandals. He still took 39 per cent of the vote, or 125 seats.

He dismisses charges against him as a vendetta waged by political enemies trying to drive him from power through parliamentary intrigue because they cannot win power through the ballot box.



'Uncle scrooge go home'

PARIS (AP) — Disney President Michael Eisner was pelted with eggs and ketchup Thursday when he arrived at the Paris stock exchange to announce the sale of stock in the New European Disneyland. The expression of discontent came not from stock traders, but angry young Communists, some sporting masks of Disney characters, who were protesting government spending on park-related infrastructure.

Eisner, a charismatic populist leader who won landslide victories in 1981 and 1985, went into the June election battered by personal, political and financial scandals. He still took 39 per cent of the vote, or 125 seats.

He dismisses charges against him as a vendetta waged by political enemies trying to drive him from power through the ballot box.

Global weather

(major world cities)

	Min.	Max.	Weather
AMSTERDAM	10	50	14 57 Cloudy
BAHRAIN	24	75	34 82 Clear
BANGKOK	25	77	33 91 Cloudy
BUENOS AIRES	10	52	23 68 Cloudy
CARIO	12	64	28 82 Clear
CHICAGO	06	48	14 51 Clear
COPENHAGEN	10	50	14 57 Clear
FRANKFURT	08	43	16 61 Cloudy
HONG KONG	25	77	28 82 Clear
ISTANBUL	11	52	18 64 Cloudy
LONDON	12	64	14 57 Cloudy
LOS ANGELES	17	63	24 78 Cloudy
MADRID	13	55	23 82 Clear
MECCA	04	38	11 105 Clear
MONTREAL	02	38	11 105 Clear
MOSCOW	22	72	35 95 Clear
NEW DELHI	12	53	21 70 Clear
PARIS	11	52	24